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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
OF THE
BROMYARD, DORE, HEREFORD, LEDBURY,
LEOMINSTER.
AND
WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICTS,
AND OF THE
BROMYARD URBAN DISTRICT,
1905.

ISSUED MAY 10th, 1906.

HEREFORD
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VITAL STATISTICS IN 1905 AND PREVIOUS YEARS. *Corrected for Residents and Non-Residents.*

[illegible]

Herefordshire Combined District.

Bromyard Rural

Dore Rural

Hereford Rural (*Tel. No. 64, Nat.*)

Ledbury Rural

Leominster Rural (*Tel. No. 23X, P.O.*)

Weobley Rural

Telegrams :
"HEALTH, HEREFORD."

Medical Officer of Health :
HERBERT JONES, D.P.H. (CAMB.)

9, ST. OWEN STREET,
HEREFORD,
MAY, 1906.

*To the Chairmen and Members of the Rural District Councils forming the
Herefordshire Combined District.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you my Annual Report for the year 1905.

The fall in the birth-rate during the past years has been matter of general comment. I have endeavoured by differentiating between the legitimate and the illegitimate birth-rates to arrive at a correct conclusion as to the position in your Districts. Reference to p. 4 will show that although the birth-rate is declining in Herefordshire, it is actually higher than that prevailing in the rest of the country, provided the rate is calculated as it should be as a proportion of the number of married women living between the ages of 15 and 45 years.

On p. 7 I have set out the death-rates corrected for sex and age, in order that a more accurate comparison may be made with the whole country. It is gratifying to find that while the death-rate during 1905 from all causes was 15.2 per 1,000 in England and Wales, it was only 13.5 in the six Herefordshire Districts. The Ledbury rate was 10.9, Leominster 13.6, Hereford 13.8, Dore 14.2, Bromyard 14.6, and Weobley 15.1 per 1,000.

The number of uncertified deaths was high (p. 7). The Registrar-General has more than once drawn attention to the unsatisfactory position of Herefordshire in this respect.

Particular attention has been directed during the past year to

1.—The conversion of offensive privies to earth-closets (p. 12).

I am disappointed that the Managers of many of the Non-provided Schools have not yet done away with the privies attached to their Schools and brought the latter up to the standard of the Provided Schools.

2.—The provision of rainwater gutters upon cottages (p. 17).

One would imagine that only the most imprudent and improvident property owner would allow a cottage to remain without eaves gutters to carry off the rain, for damp foundations and wet walls cannot help but hasten the deterioration of buildings. We often find, however, the greatest difficulty in getting this work carried out.

3.—The prevention of the pollution of roadside or public dip-wells.

I cannot too strongly emphasize the necessity for enclosing or erecting a pump over public dip-wells. It is only necessary to suggest the possibility of dipping a stop-bucket into the well, or the actual fouling of the water by a passing tramp to show how easily such a water supply may be dangerously polluted with the most disastrous results to those dependent upon it for drinking purposes.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Faithfully yours,

HERBERT JONES,

Fellow of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Herefordshire Combined District.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1905

AREA.—The area of the six combined districts of Herefordshire is 350,628 acres, exclusive of the area covered with water.

POPULATION.—The population of the combined district at the census of 1901 was 52,187. From the date of the census to the middle of 1905 the number of births exceeded the deaths by 1,858. Assuming that the number of persons who had left the districts equalled the number who had come into them the population would have been 54,045. It is usual, however, to consider that the rate of increase or decrease which has prevailed during the last completed intercensal period has since been maintained, and as there was a decrease between 1891 and 1901 in the six districts of 1,467 persons, the estimated population at midsummer, 1905, was 51,588.

	Area in acres.	Mid. 1905.	Population Census, 1901.	Persons per acre
Bromyard Rural District	60,964 ..	8,262 ..	8,244 ..	.13
Dore	67,747 ..	6,592 ..	6,742 ..	.09
Hereford	65,147 ..	13,027 ..	13,271 ..	.20
Ledbury	52,013 ..	9,231 ..	9,068 ..	.17
Leominster	55,285 ..	7,716 ..	7,911 ..	.14
Weobley	49,472 ..	6,760 ..	6,951 ..	.14
Six Districts	350,628 ..	51,588 ..	52,187 ..	.13

BIRTHS.—The number of births registered in the six districts during 1905 was 1,156, equal to a birth-rate of 22.4 per 1,000 persons living at all ages. The average birth-rate in the previous ten years was 24.8 per 1,000. The birth-rate in Rural England and Wales in 1905 was 26.3 per 1,000.

In his 66th Annual Report the Registrar-General points out that the total population is not the most satisfactory standard by which to measure the birth-rate, because it does not take account of the age constitution of the population, and particularly of the age constitution of the female population of conceptive age. A preferable method by which to measure the birth-rate is to calculate the proportion of legitimate births per 1,000 married women between the ages of 15 and 45 years, and to adopt a similar method as regards illegitimate births calculated in proportion to 1,000 unmarried and widowed women between the same ages.

BIRTH-RATE.

Per 1,000 Persons living at all ages.

					1903		1904.		1905
Dore Rural District	..	..	..	..	27.1	..	26.2	..	25.3
Weobley	..	..	..	..	25.4	..	26.7	..	23.9
Leominster	..	..	..	..	22.5	..	21.5	..	23.4
Ledbury	..	..	..	..	22.2	..	21.8	..	22.8
Bromyard	..	..	..	..	23.1	..	24.0	..	21.0
Hereford	..	..	..	..	21.7	..	21.6	..	20.1
Six Districts	..	..	..	..	23.4	..	23.3	..	22.4
England and Wales	..	..	..	..	28.4	..	27.9	..	27.2
„	..	..	..	..	26.8	..	26.3	..	26.3

LEGITIMATE BIRTH-RATE.

Per 1,000 Married Women living between the ages of 15 and 45 years.

					1903.		1904.		1905
Dore Rural District	..	..	..	..	289.8	..	288.1	..	265.7
Leominster	..	..	..	..	236.6	..	225.4	..	239.4
Bromyard	..	..	..	..	248.6	..	255.5	..	233.2
Ledbury	..	..	..	..	224.5	..	223.3	..	231.6
Weobley	..	..	..	..	251.5	..	264.1	..	226.4
Hereford	..	..	..	..	232.7	..	237.0	..	221.3
Six Districts	..	..	..	..	265.5	..	267.0	..	234.1
England and Wales	..	..	..	..	233.3	..	229.1	..	229.1

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH-RATE.

Per 1,000 Unmarried and Widowed Women living between the
ages of 15 and 45 years.

	1902.		1903.		1904.		1905.
Bromyard Rural District	19.6	..	16.9	..	18.0	..	7.9
Dore	13.0	..	15.6	..	7.8	..	13.0
Hereford	9.6	..	11.3	..	6.7	..	5.6
Ledbury	9.5	..	11.6	..	9.7	..	12.6
Leominster	11.0	..	7.7	..	6.6	..	11.0
Weobley	12.3	..	17.3	..	18.5	..	22.3
Six Districts	10.4	..	12.9	..	10.5	..	11.0
„ „ (Actual number)	64	..	80	..	65	..	68
England and Wales	..	..	8.4	..	8.4	..	

DEATHS.—The number of deaths registered in the six districts was 772, and after making the necessary adjustments for the deaths of residents in public institutions without the district and of non-residents in public institutions within the district there were 796 deaths of persons belonging to the six districts, equal to a death-rate of 15.4 per 1,000. The average death-rate in the previous ten years was 15.7 per 1,000 and the death-rate recorded in Rural England and Wales during 1905 was 14.9 per 1,000.

CORRECTED DEATH-RATE.—The death-rate from all causes in this country is lower at ages between 5 years and 55 years than it is at other periods, and it is lower among females than among males. As the proportion of persons living at different age-periods and of males to females differs in various localities it is necessary to make certain corrections if we desire to compare with accuracy the death-rates of two or more districts. In England and Wales of every 1,000 persons living at the last census 113 were under 5 years and 106 were over 55 years, but of every 1,000 persons living in the six districts at the same period 106 were under 5 years and 166 over 55 years, this large proportion of older persons favouring a high death-rate. If we refer to the sex ratio we find that at the last census in England and Wales there were 484 males to 516 females; while in the six districts there were 496 males to 504 females, the larger number of males again favouring a high death-rate in Herefordshire. In order to make a true comparison with the rest of the country I have worked out the factor of correction for each of the districts, and the death-rate thus corrected in the combined district in 1905 was 13.5 per 1,000, compared with 15.2 per 1,000 in the whole of England and Wales. The corrected average death-rate in the six districts in the previous ten years was 13.8 per 1,000.

SEX.—Of the 796 deaths recorded in 1905, 416 were of males and 380 of females. The death-rate of males was 16.3, and that of females 14.6 per 1,000 living of each sex respectively. These rates correspond very closely with those recorded for the whole of England and Wales for 1904, viz., 17.3 for males and 15.2 for females.

AGES AT DEATH.—The ages at death are shown in the following Table :—

	All ages.	Under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 to 75.	75 to 85.	Above 85.
Bromyard.....	136	19	13	2	7	15	28	24	21	7
Dore.....	105	8	5	6	3	15	22	18	23	5
Hereford	204	23	10	13	11	22	36	38	41	10
Ledbury.....	108	18	6	1	2	13	25	19	17	7
Leominster	123	16	5	2	1	10	22	27	31	9
Weobley	120	17	7	3	4	12	32	19	20	6
Six Districts.....	796	101	46	27	28	87	165	145	153	44

It will be observed that 447, or 56 per cent. of the total number of deaths occurred at the extremes of life, under one year and over 65 years. The proportion of deaths (43 per cent. of the whole number) above 65 years is higher than is usually found in rural districts, and shows that a large number of the inhabitants attain a ripe age.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—The amount of child mortality is measured by stating the number of children under one year who have died within a certain period as a proportion of 1,000 births registered within the same period.

In the six districts during 1905 the births of 1,156 children were registered and 101 children died under one year old. The infantile mortality rate was thus 87 per 1,000 births registered. The average rate in the preceding ten years was 97. In Rural England and Wales in 1905 the rate was 113 per 1,000 births registered.

ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS.—There were nine deaths in the six districts among illegitimate children under one year old, a number equal to 132 per 1,000 illegitimate births registered compared with

84 in the case of legitimate births and deaths. No deaths of illegitimate children were registered in the Bromyard, Dore, or Ledbury Rural Districts.

Corrected Death-rate and Infantile Mortality Rate :—

	Corrected Death-rate per 1,000 persons living.	Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 births registered.
Bromyard Rural District	14.6	109
Dore	14.2	48
Hereford	13.8	87
Ledbury	10.9	85
Leominster	13.6	88
Weobley	15.1	104
Six Districts	13.5	87
England and Wales	15.2	128

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.—Of the 772 deaths registered in the six districts, 700, or 90.7 per cent., were certified by registered medical practitioners, 38 or 4.9 per cent. were certified by the Coroners after inquests had been held, and 34 or 4.4 per cent. were uncertified. In the whole of England and Wales during 1904 only 1.62 per cent. of the deaths were uncertified. In former reports I have drawn attention to the large number of uncertified deaths in the six districts. The Registrar-General has also commented upon the abnormally high percentage of these deaths recorded in the County of Hereford, and he suggests that the Coroners should consider the desirability of holding inquests more frequently in the case of uncertified deaths that are referred to them.

ZYMOTIC (INFECTIOUS) DISEASES.—Small-pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Typhoid Fever, Diarrhoea.

	1905. Death-rate per 1,000.	Average of 10 years. 1895—1904.
Herefordshire Districts	0.62	0.58
Rural England and Wales	1.09	—

In former years the death-rate from the seven infectious diseases named was considered an index to the sanitary state of a district. It is now, however, recognised that there are many other diseases dependent more or less upon insanitary conditions capable of amendment. Too much importance must not therefore be attached to a low zymotic death-rate. As the Registrar-General still groups together these seven diseases, I have thought it desirable to record the death-rates for the same group in the combined district.

ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE.—NO. OF DEATHS IN 1905.

	1905.	Average of 10 years, 1895-1904.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Diarrhoea
Bromyard.....	0·96	0·50	0	2	1	3	0	0	2
Dore.....	0·64	0·47	0	0	0	3	0	1	0
Hereford	0·80	0·60	0	0	1	2	7	0	1
Ledbury	0·21	0·83	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Leominster	0·39	0·49	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Weobley	0·59	0·66	0	0	1	2	1	0	0
Six Districts ...	0·62	0·58	0	3	3	13	8	1	4

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The diseases notifiable under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, are Small-pox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever, Typhus Fever, Typhoid Fever, Enteric Fever, Relapsing Fever, Continued Fever, Puerperal Fever, and Plague.

A sanitary authority may, with the sanction of the Local Government Board, add to this list any other infectious disease, either for a definite period or permanently.

NO. OF CASES NOTIFIED IN 1905.

	1905.	Small-pox.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Continued Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	*Phthisis.
Bromyard..	24	0	4	5	13	1	0	1	
Dore	37	0	4	18	9	3	5	0	
Hereford	102	0	38	10	52	2	0	0	
Ledbury	13	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	
Leominster	37	0	15	4	15	1	0	0	2
Weobley	23	0	7	5	9	1	0	1	
Six Districts	236	0	77	43	98	10	3	3	2

* Phthisis is voluntarily notifiable in Bromyard, Dore, Leominster and Weobley Rural Districts.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The steps which are now taken to prevent the spread of infectious diseases within the districts were stated in some detail on pp. 9 and 10 of my report for 1904.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Three of the six districts, Bromyard, Hereford, and Weobley, are now provided with accommodation for isolating cases of infectious disease. A description of the Bromyard Hospital was given in my report for 1901 (p. 60). An account of the hospital erected by the Hereford Rural District Council will be found on p. 95 of my report for 1904. This hospital is available for patients from the Hereford Rural and the Weobley Rural Districts. These two hospitals are the only institutions of the kind of a permanent character in the county.

For the accommodation of cases of infectious disease occurring in the workhouses there is provision made within the curtilage of these buildings, except at Bromyard, where pauper cases are treated in the isolation hospital. At the Hereford and Dore Workhouses there are iron hospitals at a short distance from the main buildings. The Dore Hospital has not been used since it was erected in the year 1896.

During the past few years there has been some discussion as to the desirability of providing hospitals for the purpose of isolating cases of infectious disease, and statistics have been freely used to show on the one hand that such hospitals are of little use and on the other that they are a necessary equipment in Public Health administration. It seems to me that it is not a question which can be settled by statistics or by comparing the results of isolation in one town or district with those in another. The best way to regard it is this. In a large or moderately large house there is usually a room that can be set aside for the isolation of any member of the household who is attacked with an illness of an infectious character, and removal to a hospital is not urgently necessary. But in the case of a cottage all the available sleeping room is mostly fully occupied and the hospital must thus be regarded as the working man's spare room. It is for this class of case that I consider an isolation hospital is more particularly required in a rural district. In Herefordshire, where there is a large influx of women and children from neighbouring counties during the fruit-picking and hop-picking seasons, isolation hospitals are especially necessary, and there will one day I fear be a rude awakening in those districts where these institutions do not exist.

PHTHISIS (CONSUMPTION).

There were 51 deaths from consumption in the six districts during 1905, or 6.5 per cent. of the deaths from all causes, giving a death-rate per 1,000 of 0.98. Twenty-eight were males and twenty-three females. The average rate recorded in the previous ten years was 0.94 per 1,000. The death-rate in rural England and Wales in 1904 was 1.17 per 1,000.

NO. OF DEATHS AND DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 FROM PHTHISIS.

	1905.		Average of ten years. 1895-1904.	
	No. of deaths.	Death rate.		
Bromyard Rural District..	9 ..	1.08 ..	0.76	
Dore	8 ..	1.35 ..	1.18	
Hereford	12 ..	0.94 ..	0.80	
Ledbury	12 ..	1.30 ..	0.98	
Leominster	6 ..	0.77 ..	0.58	
Weobley	4 ..	0.59 ..	0.75	

A scheme for the voluntary notification by medical practitioners of cases of Consumption is in force in the Bromyard, Dore, Leominster and Weobley Rural Districts.

CANCER.

There were 41 deaths (20 males and 21 females) from cancer in the six Districts during the year 1905, giving a death-rate of 1.10 per 1,000. More than five per cent. of the total deaths were thus due to Cancer. The death-rate in England and Wales in 1904 was .87 per 1,000.

NO. OF DEATHS AND DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 FROM CANCER.

	1905.		Average of ten years, 1895-1904.	
	No. of deaths.	Death rate.		
Bromyard Rural District..	8 ..	0.96 ..	0.92	
Dore	9 ..	1.35 ..	0.72	
Hereford	3 ..	0.22 ..	0.74	
Ledbury	4 ..	0.45 ..	1.10	
Leominster	10 ..	1.29 ..	1.47	
Weobley	7 ..	1.03 ..	0.82	

TO PREVENT CONSUMPTION

CONSUMPTION IS PREVENTABLE, and is a disease from which many people recover.

If the following suggestions are carried out those already ill^s will be more likely to recover and those who are healthy will be less likely to become Consumptive.

The disease is SPREAD principally by the SPIT. This becomes dry and, either by itself or mixed with dust, may be breathed in by a healthy person, who may then have Consumption.

It often happens that a person with a cough may be Consumptive without knowing it, so that no one can spit at random without possible danger to others.

It is especially dangerous to Spit on the floor of a railway carriage or other public vehicle, and of public houses, shops, public buildings, and on dry pavements or roadways.

Nothing prevents CONSUMPTION more than SUNLIGHT, CLEANLINESS, and PURE AIR.

Where there is darkness there is often dirt, and where there is dirt there is often disease.

When damp cleaning is not possible, the DUST from the sweeping of rooms should be burned and not thrown into the road or yard whence it may be blown back again into the house.

WINDOWS should be FREELY OPENED in workrooms and in dwelling houses both by night and by day. On no account must the Chimney be stopped up.

FOUL AIR IS AS DANGEROUS AS IMPURE WATER OR BAD DRAINS.

A CLOSE OR STUFFY ROOM usually means that the air in it is impure because it has been breathed and re-breathed many times, and should be purified by ventilation.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

In only three parishes—Bosbury, Colwall and Weobley—is there any combined scheme of sewerage. From isolated large houses the drains empty on to adjoining land or into water courses. In far too many instances slop drains from farm houses and cottages discharge into roadside ditches. In the case of farms the drains frequently discharge into the foldyard, which is nothing more than a huge manure midden, where liquid manure is allowed to lie year in and year out. It is only fair to state that very many farmers realise how wasteful this practice is, and that the liquid portion of manure is a valuable fertiliser, and is certainly “matter in the wrong place” if that place is beneath the windows of their dairies.

At the majority of farm houses and cottages privy closets are found which are only emptied at very infrequent intervals, and when they become unpleasantly full. It is obviously quite out of the question to substitute water closets for these, but they can be converted at very little cost indeed into inoffensive and perfectly sanitary earth closets in the manner described below.

EARTH CLOSETS.

Almost any privy closet can be used as an earth closet. It is altogether a mistake to suppose that either an elaborate apparatus or any special means for drying the earth is necessary. When a new house or cottage is being erected it is actually less costly to provide an earth closet than to put up an old fashioned pit privy.

A privy closet is often placed as far away from the house as possible, and is surrounded with trees or thick shrubs.

An earth closet may be situated quite close to a house, and the more air and sunshine that can get to it the better.

The actual structure of an earth closet need not be of a substantial character. The roof should be good, and it is of advantage to have a portion of it glazed. The entire floor should be paved with some hard impervious material.

The principle of the earth closet permits of the entire space beneath the seat being used as a fixed receptacle, or a movable pail may be placed beneath the seat. When no pail is used the inside surface of the walls of the receptacle should be cemented. The best form of pail is that of an ordinary coal scuttle. The small

handle in front of the scuttle is conveniently placed to draw the pail from under the seat, and the larger carrying handle can readily be made moveable and hung on the wall when the pail is in use, thus ensuring that it will not become fouled as it might do if left on the pail.

The fixed receptacle can be emptied through an opening placed either at the back or at the side of the structure. For more effectual cleansing it is an advantage to make the closet seat to hinge.

A pail is preferably taken out from the inside of the closet. There should be no "riser," but the seat should be supported by the end walls and by two posts, so that the floor of the closet can be easily cleaned.

Inside the closet there must be placed an open box containing earth and a scoop or a flat piece of wood or stiff cardboard for the purpose of putting the earth into the pail or receptacle.

Finally, this notice should be put up on an inside wall :—

" Every person using this closet must put in enough earth to keep the surface dry."

Before speaking of the kind of earth to use it should be pointed out that the process known as nitrification of the soil is the result of the breaking up of substances used as manures by germs or microbes which are present in the soil. The more life there is in the soil, in other words the more germs, the quicker will this breaking up process be carried on, and the sooner will the manure become of the character of earth. The best kind of earth to use therefore, is that which has the most life in it, and none is better than the upper layers of ordinary garden loam. If earth taken from a considerable depth is used it will be found to be comparatively sterile and without life. From this three things are evident :—

1. That the earth used must not be dried artificially, or the germ life will be destroyed.
2. That ashes must not be used. Having been burnt they are quite free from germs.
3. That if disinfectants are employed, the germ life (of which we want to retain as much as possible) will be destroyed.

To get the best results the earth should be freed from stones by riddling, and kept free from excessive moisture by being placed

under cover. It has been found in actual practice that half an hour spent once a month in riddling and storing will provide enough earth for the use of a household of five persons.

Any one who has had experience of the emptying of an ordinary privy closet or of a pail closet where no earth has been used, knows what an exceedingly offensive proceeding it is, and the crude night-soil is as agriculturists say so "hot" that it cannot be put on to land until it has been diluted with earth.

It is quite otherwise with the earth closet, for when the time comes for emptying it the breaking up processes are found to have been going on to such good effect that the fixed receptacle or the pail contains practically nothing but rich humus, which can at once be put around fruit trees or buried a few inches beneath the soil without the least offensiveness, and with the best results to the vegetation.

An attempt has been made to show that wherever there are a few perches of garden attached to a house it is possible to replace a foul smelling dangerous privy closet by a harmless inodorous earth closet. The cost to the owner is in most cases nothing at all, and the slight extra labour entailed upon the tenant in the riddling and storing of the earth is surely much more than compensated for by the absence of the extremely disagreeable duty of periodically emptying an offensive privy, to say nothing of the dangers which must attend the storing up of human excrement without any attempt at rendering it harmless.

WATER SUPPLY.

In only a very few parishes is there any combined system of water supply where pipes are laid on to the houses and taps are provided. This is the case in Eastnor, a part of Colwall, Fownhope, Peterchurch, Kentchurch, and Michaelchurch. The majority of the remaining houses are supplied from wells, some having pumps attached, others are provided with a windlass and bucket. The source of supply is in the great majority of instances quite above suspicion, but as it is the practice in the district to "dry steyn" the walls of the wells, whether they are deep or shallow, there is always a risk of pollution. Every well should be lined with bricks set in cement. The lining should be carried up to at least eighteen inches above the level of the surrounding ground, and the top of the well should be most carefully covered over. However pure a water may be, if it can become polluted either through tricklings from the surface through the wall lining or from ground washings through a half-rotten wooden covering, it might as well be impure to begin with. To seek, often at considerable cost, for a pure supply of water, and then to take no pains to secure it from pollution appears to me to be an excellent illustration of the maxim "Penny wise and pound foolish." In the case of new houses, a Sanitary Authority can prohibit their occupation unless the water supply is approved, and I consider that each District Council should withhold its approval where the supply is from a well unless such well is guarded against pollution in the manner indicated.

It is the duty of a Sanitary Authority to see that every occupied dwelling-house within their district has within a reasonable distance an available supply of wholesome water (Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, Sec. 3). A "reasonable distance" has been defined in the six districts as 500 yards, and (in some districts) as 200 yards in the case of new houses. It appears to me that no hardship would be involved in requiring new houses to have a supply at a considerably less distance than 200 yards. If water is not available quite close to a proposed site, I consider that it is not a suitable place to build a house upon. No one would think of erecting even a moderately large house of a rental, say, of £25 or £30 a year, if water had to be carried in buckets a distance of 200 yards, and the occupier of a cottage dwelling is entitled to the same consideration.

HOUSING.

The following table discloses the fact that there were 95 fewer occupied houses in the six districts in 1901 than there were in 1891. Ledbury is the only district in which there was an increased number. :—

					Inhabited houses at Census.	
					1891.	1901.
Bromyard Rural District	..	..	..	..	1,828	1,790
Dore	..	..	..	..	1,606	1,555
Hereford	..	..	..	..	2,892	2,877
Ledbury	..	..	..	..	1,927	2,004
Leominster	..	..	..	..	1,875	1,872
Weobley	..	..	..	..	1,719	1,654
Six Districts	..	..	..	..	11,847	11,752

Many of the cottages are well built and carefully looked after. There are, however, a certain number which are very near the borderland of habitable and uninhabitable. In very few is sufficient attention paid to securing freedom from dampness, no form of damp course being provided, and the absence in far too many instances of eaves gutters to carry off the roof rain ensures a permanent condition which ought not to be allowed to remain.

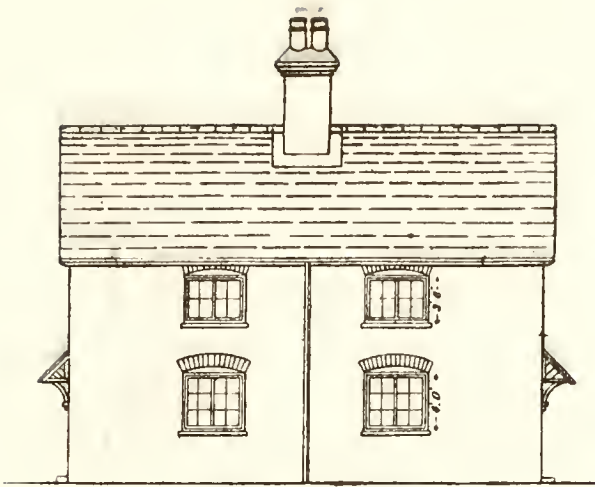
Plans of cottages designed by Mr. H. H. Langston will be found on page 144 of my report for 1902, and by Messrs. Haywood and Son on page 17 of my report for 1903. Through the courtesy of Messrs. Carter, Jonas and Son, of Cambridge, I am able to reproduce plans of semi-detached cottages erected by the Earl of Carrington.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICTS.

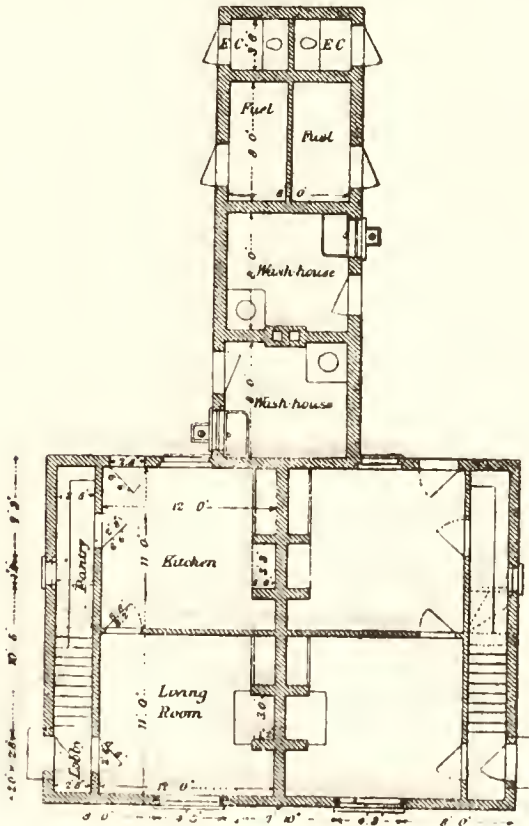
Among the duties cast upon Sanitary Authorities are the following :— To cause an inspection of their districts to be made from time to time with a view to ascertain what nuisances exist calling for abatement under the Public Health Act, 1875 (Public Health Act, 1875, sec. 92).

To put in force as occasion may require the powers with which they are invested so as to secure the proper sanitary condition of all premises within the area under their control (Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885, sec. 7).

I attach very great importance to the periodical inspections of their districts by the Inspectors. Our aim should be to secure that an insanitary condition shall be discovered as early as possible and before it may have had time to do much mischief.



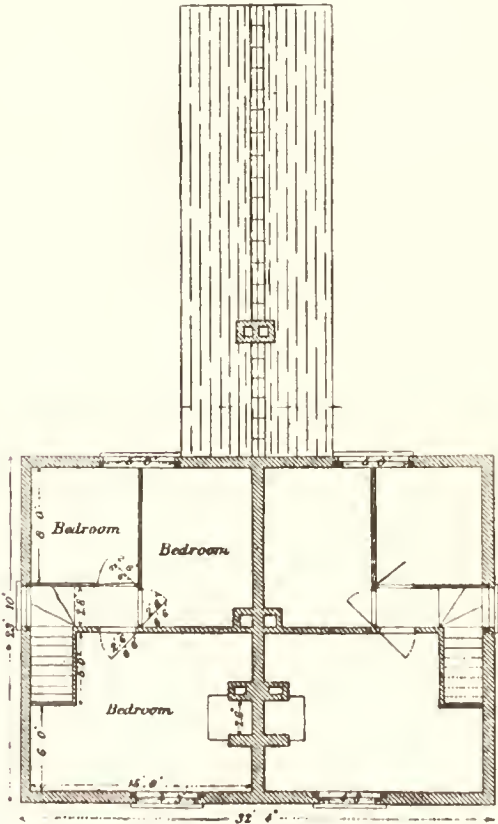
FRONT ELEVATION



GROUND PLAN



BACK ELEVATION



CHAMBER PLAN

INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

The duties of an Inspector of Nuisances are laid down by the Local Government Board in a General Order of the Board dated 23rd March, 1891 (Article 19), which reads as follows :—

1. He shall perform, either under the special directions of the Sanitary Authority, or (so far as authorized by the Sanitary Authority) under the directions of the Medical Officer of Health, or in cases where no such directions are required, without such directions, all the duties specially imposed upon an Inspector of Nuisances by the Public Health Act, 1875, or by any other statute or statutes or by the orders of the Local Government Board, so far as the same apply to his office.

2. He shall attend all meetings of the Sanitary Authority when so required.

3. He shall by inspection of the district, both systematically at certain periods, and at intervals as occasion may require, keep himself informed in respect of the nuisances existing therein that require abatement.

4. On receiving notice of the existence of any nuisance within the district, or of the breach of any bye-laws or regulations made by the Sanitary Authority for the suppression of nuisances, he shall, as early as practicable, visit the spot, and inquire into such alleged nuisance or breach of bye-laws or regulations.

5. He shall report to the Sanitary Authority any noxious or offensive businesses, trades, or manufactories established within the district, and the breach or non-observance of any bye-laws or regulations made in respect of the same.

6. He shall report to the Sanitary Authority any damage done to any works of water supply, or other works belonging to them, and also any case of wilful or negligent waste of water supplied by them, or any fouling by gas, filth, or otherwise, of water used for domestic purposes.

7. He shall from time to time, and forthwith upon complaint, visit and inspect the shops and places kept or used for the preparation or sale of butchers' meat, poultry, fish, fruit, vegetables, corn, bread, flour, milk, or any other article to which the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875, in this behalf apply, and examine any animal, carcase, meat, poultry, game, flesh, fish, fruit, vegetables, corn, bread, flour, milk, or

other article as aforesaid which may be therein; and in case any such article appear to him to be intended for the food of man, and to be unfit for such food, he shall cause the same to be seized, and take such other proceedings as may be necessary in order to have the same dealt with by a justice: Provided that in any case of doubt arising under this clause, he shall report the matter to the Medical Officer of Health, with the view of obtaining his advice thereon.

8. He shall, when and as directed by the Sanitary Authority, procure and submit samples of food, drink, or drugs suspected to be adulterated, to be analysed by the analyst appointed under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1875, and upon receiving a certificate stating that the articles of food, drink, or drugs, are adulterated, cause a complaint to be made, and take the other proceedings prescribed by that Act.

9. He shall give immediate notice to the Medical Officer of Health of the occurrence within the district of any contagious, infectious, or epidemic disease: and whenever it appears to him that the intervention of such officer is necessary in consequence of the existence of any nuisance injurious to health, or of any overcrowding in a house, he shall forthwith inform the Medical Officer of Health thereof.

10. He shall, subject to the directions of the Sanitary Authority, attend to the instructions of the Medical Officer of Health, with respect to any measures which can be lawfully taken by an Inspector of Nuisances under the Public Health Act, 1875, or under any other statute or statutes for preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious, or epidemic disease of a dangerous character.

11. He shall enter from day to day in a book to be provided by the Sanitary Authority, particulars of his inspections and of the action taken by him in the execution of his duties. He shall also keep a book or books, to be provided by the Sanitary Authority, so arranged as to form, as far as possible, a continuous record of the sanitary condition of each of the premises in respect of which any action has been taken under the Public Health Act, 1875, or under any other statute or statutes, and shall keep any other systematic records that the Sanitary Authority may require.

12. He shall, at all reasonable times, when applied to by the Medical Officer of Health, produce to him his books, or any

of them, and render to him such information as he may be able to furnish with respect to any matter to which the duties of Inspector of Nuisances relate.

13. He shall, if directed by the Sanitary Authority to do so, superintend and see to the due execution of all works which may be undertaken under their direction for the suppression or removal of nuisances within the district.

14. He shall, if directed by the Sanitary Authority to do so, act as officer of the said Authority as local authority under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, 1886, and any orders or regulations made thereunder.

15. In matters not specifically provided for in this order, he shall observe and execute all the lawful orders and directions of the Sanitary Authority, and the orders of the Local Government Board which may be hereafter issued, applicable to his office

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, and the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, have been adopted by the Hereford Rural District Council. The latter Act has been adopted by the Ledbury Rural District Council.

URBAN POWERS.

In the Ledbury District Building By-laws are in force in the parish of Colwall. In the remainder of Ledbury and in the other five districts no urban powers exist.

BY-LAWS.

By-laws with respect to common lodging-houses are in force in Bromyard and in Weobley, but not in the other districts. By-laws with respect to private scavenging are in force in the Colwall parish of the Ledbury Rural District. (See p. 114 of Annual Report, 1903).

With the above exception in none of the districts are there by-laws in force with respect to

- Private scavenging.
- Houses let in Lodgings.
- Hop and Fruit-pickers.
- Tents and vans.
- Mortuaries and Cemeteries.
- Slaughter houses.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

The following Report was presented to each of the six Councils in the Combined District and to the Bromyard Urban District Council. The Regulations as set out were adopted by the Dore and Hereford Councils. The Bromyard, Leominster, and Weobley Rural Councils decided not to adopt them. The Ledbury Council will probably adopt them, and the Bromyard Urban Council are considering the matter.

REPORT UPON DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

9TH AUGUST, 1905.

The powers which are possessed by District Councils for the keeping in a proper and sanitary condition the dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops in their districts are contained in Orders of the Privy Council and Local Government Board made in the years 1885, 1886, and 1889. The provisions of these Orders are in force in all districts. Further powers may be obtained by Regulations which a District Council is empowered to make and by the adoption of the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

The Orders provide

That the District Council must keep a register of persons from time to time carrying on in their district the trade of cow-keepers, dairymen, or purveyors of milk, and must from time to time revise and correct the register; must register every such person; and must give public notice from time to time of registration being required and of the mode of registration.

[A person who carries on the trade of cowkeeper or dairyman for the purpose only of making and selling butter or cheese, or both, and who does not carry on the trade of purveyor of milk, is not, for the purpose of registration, deemed to be a person carrying on the trade of cow-keeper or dairyman, and need not be registered.

A person who sells milk of his own cows in small quantities to his workmen or neighbours, for their accommodation, is not, for the purposes of registration, deemed, by reason only of such selling, to be a person carrying on the trade of cow-keeper, dairyman, or purveyor of milk, and need not, by reason thereof, be registered].

That a month's notice in writing must be given to the District Council of intention to occupy a dairy or cowshed not previously so occupied.

That a building shall not be occupied after June 15th, 1885, as a dairy or cowshed, unless the Council are satisfied with the lighting, ventilation, air space, cleanliness, drainage, and water supply for the building.

That no building shall be occupied as a dairy or cowshed unless the lighting, ventilation, air space, cleanliness, drainage, and water supply are such as are necessary and proper for the health and good condition of the cattle, for the cleanliness of milk vessels, and for the protection of milk against infection or contamination.

That no person while himself suffering from, or having recently been in contact with any person suffering from a dangerous infectious disease, shall milk cows or handle vessels used for containing milk for sale, or in any way take part in the conduct of the trade or business as far as regards the production, distribution, or storage of milk.

That a milk store or milk shop which has communicating with it a water-closet, earth-closet, privy, cesspool, or urinal, must not be used for the storage of milk after the attention of the occupier has been called to their proximity.

That a milk store or milk shop shall not be occupied as a sleeping apartment.

That swine shall not be kept in a cowshed or where milk is stored.

That milk from a diseased cow (and included in this term is a cow which shall be certified by a veterinary surgeon to be suffering from tubercular disease of the udder) shall not be mixed with other milk, or sold or used for human food, or unless it has been boiled, sold, or used for food of swine or other animals.

OPTIONAL POWERS.

A District Council may make Regulations

(a) For the inspection of cattle in dairies.

(b) For prescribing and regulating the lighting, ventilating, cleansing, drainage, and water supply of dairies and cowsheds in the occupation of persons following the trade of cow-keepers or dairymen.

(c) For securing the cleanliness of milk stores, milkshops, and of milk-vessels used for containing milk for sale by such persons.

(d) For prescribing precautions to be taken by purveyors of milk and persons selling milk by retail against infection or contamination.

If it is decided to make Regulations I would suggest that they should be on the lines of those which have been drawn up by the Local Government Board.

If the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, is adopted, the District Council may, on the advice of the Medical Officer of Health, who must be assisted by a veterinary surgeon, prohibit for a specified period the sale of milk within their district from any dairy situated either within the district or without.

The Royal Commission on Tuberculosis (1898) made the following recommendations :—

That the notification of every disease in the udder should be compulsory, whether the milk of the animals is offered for sale or not.

That no cowshed should be registered or permitted which is within 100 feet of a dwelling house.

That as conditions for registration shall be included an impervious floor, sufficient water for flushing, proper drainage, receptacle for manure sufficiently distant, minimum air space of 600 to 800 cubic feet, and floor space 50 square feet, and sufficient light and ventilation.

That in sparsely populated places the cubic space mentioned above is not considered essential.

The following Regulations are from the model series of the Local Government Board with the addition of 17 (6) :—

REGULATIONS

MADE BY THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DORE WITH RESPECT TO DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILK-SHOPS IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF DORE.

Interpretation.

I. Throughout these Regulations the expression "The Council" means the Rural District Council of Dore, the expression "the District" means the Rural District of Dore, the expression "Cowshed" includes any dairy in which milking

cows may be kept, and the expression “ Cowkeeper ” means any person following the trade of a cowkeeper or dairyman who is, or is required to be, registered under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order of 1885.

For the Inspection of Cattle in Dairies.

2. Every occupier of a dairy wherein any cattle may be kept, and which the Medical Officer of Health, or the Inspector of Nuisances, or any other officer of the Council specially authorised by them in that behalf, may visit for the purpose of inspecting cattle, and every person for the time being having the care or control of any such dairy or of any cattle therein, shall afford such Medical Officer of Health, Inspector of Nuisances, or officer, all reasonable assistance that may, for the purpose of the inspection, be required by him.

For prescribing and regulating the lighting, ventilation, cleansing drainage, and water supply of cowsheds and dairies in the occupation of Persons following the trade of Cowkeepers or Dairymen.

PART I.

The regulations in this part shall apply to Cowsheds the cows from which are habitually grazed on grass land during the greater part of the year, and, when not so grazed, are habitually turned out during a portion of each day.

LIGHTING.

3. Every cowkeeper shall provide that every cowshed in his occupation shall be sufficiently lighted with windows, whether in the sides or roof thereof.

VENTILATION.

4. Every cowkeeper shall cause every cowshed in his occupation to be sufficiently ventilated, and for this purpose to be provided with a sufficient number of openings into the external air to keep the air in the cowshed in a wholesome condition.

CLEANSING.

5. (1) Every cowkeeper shall cause every part of the interior of every cowshed in his occupation to be thoroughly cleansed from time to time as often as may be necessary to secure that such cowshed shall be at all times reasonably clean and sweet.

(2). Such person shall cause the ceiling or interior of the roof and the walls of every cowshed in his occupation to be properly lime-washed *twice* at least in every year, that is to say, once during the month of May and once during the month of October, and at such other times as may be necessary.

Provided that this requirement shall not apply to any part of such ceiling, roof or walls, that may be properly painted, or varnished, or constructed of or covered with any material such as to render the lime-washing unsuitable or inexpedient, and that may be otherwise properly cleansed.

(3). He shall cause the floor of every such cowshed to be thoroughly swept, and all dung and other offensive matter to be removed from such cowshed as often as may be necessary, and not less than *once* in every day.

DRAINAGE.

6. (1) Every cowkeeper shall cause the drainage of every cowshed in his occupation to be so arranged that all liquid matter which may fall or be cast upon the floor may be conveyed by a suitable open channel to a drain inlet situate in the open air at a proper distance from any door or window of such cowshed, or to some other suitable place of disposal which is so situate.

(2). He shall not cause or suffer any inlet to any drain of such cowshed to be within such cowshed.

WATER SUPPLY.

7. (1) Every cowkeeper shall keep in, or in connection with, every cowshed in his occupation a supply of water suitable and sufficient for all purposes as may from time to time be reasonably necessary.

(2). He shall cause any receptacle which may be provided for such water to be emptied and thoroughly cleansed from time to time as often as may be necessary to prevent the pollution of any water that may be stored therein, and where such receptacle is used for the storage only of water he shall cause it to be properly covered and ventilated, and so placed as to be at all times readily accessible.

PART II.

The regulations in Part I., and also the following regulation shall apply to all cowsheds other than those the cows from which are habitually grazed on grass land during the greater part of the year, and, when not so grazed, are habitually turned out during a portion of each day.

8. A cowkeeper shall not cause or allow any cowshed in his occupation to be occupied by a larger number of cows than will leave not less than *eight hundred feet* of air space for each cow.

Provided as follows :—

(a) In calculating the air space for the purposes of this regulation, no space shall be reckoned which is more than *sixteen feet* above the floor ; but if the roof or ceiling is inclined, then the mean height of the same above the floor may be taken as the height thereof for the purposes of this regulation.

(b). This regulation shall not apply to any cowshed constructed and used before the date of these regulations coming into effect, until two years after that date.

PART III.

9. In this part, the expression “ Dairy ” means a dairy in which cattle are not kept.

LIGHTING.

10. Every cowkeeper shall provide that every dairy in his occupation shall be sufficiently lighted with windows, whether in the sides or roof thereof.

VENTILATION.

11. Every cowkeeper shall cause every dairy in his occupation to be sufficiently ventilated, and for this purpose to be provided with a sufficient number of openings into the external air to keep the air in the dairy in a wholesome condition.

CLEANSING.

12. (1) Every cowkeeper shall cause every part of the interior of every dairy in his occupation to be thoroughly cleansed from time to time as often as may be necessary to secure that such dairy shall be at all times reasonably clean and sweet.

(2). He shall cause the floor of every such dairy to be thoroughly cleansed with water at least *once* in every day.

DRAINAGE.

13 (1) Every cowkeeper shall cause the drainage of every dairy in his occupation to be so arranged that all liquid matter which may fall or be cast upon the floor may be conveyed by a

suitable open channel to the outside of such dairy, and may there be received in a suitable gulley communicating with a proper and sufficient drain.

(2). He shall not cause or suffer any inlet to any drain of such dairy to be within such dairy.

WATER SUPPLY.

14 (1) Every cowkeeper shall cause every dairy in his occupation to be provided with an adequate supply of good and wholesome water for the cleansing of such dairy and of any vessels that may be used therein for containing milk, and for all other reasonable and necessary purposes in connection with the use thereof.

(2). He shall cause every cistern or other receptacle in which any such water may be stored to be properly covered and ventilated, and so placed as to be at all times readily accessible.

(3). He shall cause every such cistern or receptacle to be emptied and thoroughly cleansed from time to time as often as may be necessary to prevent the pollution of any water that may be stored therein.

For Securing the Cleanliness of Milk-Stores, Milk-Shops, and of Milk-Vessels used for containing Milk for Sale by Persons following the trade of Cowkeepers or Dairymen.

CLEANLINESS OF MILK-STORES AND MILK-SHOPS.

15. Every occupier of a milk-store or milk-shop shall cause every part of the interior of such milk-store or milk-shop to be thoroughly cleansed from time to time as often as may be necessary to maintain such milk-store or milk-shop in a thorough state of cleanliness.

CLEANLINESS OF MILK-VESSELS.

16. (1) Every cowkeeper shall from time to time as often as may be necessary cause every milk-vessel that may be used by him for containing milk for sale to be thoroughly cleansed with steam or clean boiling water, and shall otherwise take all proper precautions for the maintenance of such milk-vessel in a constant state of cleanliness.

(2). He shall, on every occasion when any such vessel shall have been used to contain milk, or shall have been returned to him after having been out of his possession, cause such vessel to be forthwith so cleansed.

For prescribing precautions to be taken by Purveyors of milk and Persons selling milk by retail against infection or contamination.

17 (1) Every purveyor of milk or person selling milk by retail shall take all reasonable and proper precautions in and in connection with the storage and distribution of the milk, and otherwise, to prevent the exposure of the milk to any infection or contamination.

(2) He shall not deposit or keep any milk intended for sale—

- (a) in any room or place where it would be liable to become infected or contaminated by impure air, or by any offensive, noxious or deleterious gas or substance, or by any noxious or injurious emanation, exhalation, or effluvium; or
- (b.) in any room used as a kitchen or as a living room; or
- (c.) in any room or building, or part of a building communicating directly by door, window, or otherwise with any room used as a sleeping room, or in which there may be any person suffering from any infectious or contagious disease, or which may have been used by any person suffering from any such disease and may not have been properly disinfected; or
- (d.) in any room or building or part of a building in which there may be any direct inlet to any drain.

(3). He shall not keep milk for sale, or cause or suffer any such milk to be placed, in any vessel, receptacle or utensil which is not thoroughly clean.

(4). He shall cause every vessel, receptacle or utensil used by him for containing milk for sale to be thoroughly cleansed with steam or clean boiling water after it shall have^g_x been used, and to be maintained in a constant state of cleanliness.

(5). He shall not cause or suffer any cow belonging to him or under his care or control to be milked for the purpose of obtaining milk for sale—

- (a.) unless, at the time of milking, the udder and teats of such cow are thoroughly clean; and
- (b.) unless the hands of the person milking such cow, also, are thoroughly clean and free from all infection and contamination.

(6). *He shall not after becoming aware that any cow belonging to him or under his care or control, is affected with such disease of the udder as shall be certified by a Veterinary Surgeon to be Tubercular keep, or permit to be kept, such cow in the same dairy, cowshed, or other place in which any healthy cow is kept for the purpose of supplying milk for sale, unless completely isolated from such healthy cow.*

PENALTIES.

18. Every person who shall offend against any of the foregoing regulations shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty of *five pounds*, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further penalty of *forty shillings* for each day after written notice of the offence from the Council.

Provided, nevertheless, that the justices or court before whom any complaint may be made or any proceedings may be taken in respect of any such offence may, if they think fit, adjudge the payment as a penalty of any sum less than the full amount of the penalty imposed by this regulation.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE REGULATIONS.

19. These regulations shall come into force on and after the 1st day of January, 1906.

REVOCATION OF RESOLUTIONS.

20. From and after the date on which these regulations shall come into force, all regulations heretofore made under, or having effect in pursuance of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order of 1885, shall, so far as the same are now in force in the district, be revoked.

The Common Seal of the Council for the Rural District of Dore was hereto affixed at a meeting of the said Council held on the 9th day of October, 1905, in the presence of

T. ABERCROMBIE, *Chairman*.

R. MOORE, *Clerk*.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There is only one common lodging-house in the six districts ; it is situated in Weobley. By-laws with respect to common lodging-houses were adopted by the Weobley Council on August 6th, 1901,

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, which came into force on January 1st, 1902, is an Act to consolidate with Amendments the Factory and Workshop Acts.

Under the provisions of this Act new duties are cast upon Sanitary Authorities and upon their officials.

Section 132 is as follows :—“ The Medical Officer of Health of every District Council shall in his Annual Report to them report specifically on the administration of this Act in Workshops and Workplaces, and he shall send a copy of his Annual Report, or so much of it as deals with this subject, to the Secretary of State.”

Section 131 requires that “ every District Council shall keep a register of all workshops situate within their district.” Summaries of the Registers will be found on pages 55, 75, 97, 121, 141, 165, and 174.

Workshops may be defined broadly as

Any premises, room, or place where steam, water, or other mechanical power is not used in aid of the manufacturing process carried on there, in which premises, room, or place, or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which premises any manual labour is exercised by way of trade or for purposes of gain in or incidental to any of the following purposes, namely :—

- (1) The making of any article or of part of any article ; or
 - (2) The altering, repairing, ornamenting, or finishing of any article ; or
 - (3) The adapting for sale of any article,
- and to or over which premises, room, or place the employer of the persons working therein has the right of access or control,

Where steam, water, or other mechanical power is used in aid of manufacturing processes the premises concerned are defined as a factory.

Within the Rural Districts are chemical works, encaustic tile works, and corn mills, which are factories. The workshops within the districts include those occupied by Blacksmiths, Bootmakers, Builders, Carpenters, Coopers, Dressmakers, Machinists, Saddlers, Tailors, and Wheelwrights. Bakehouses are separately dealt with under the Act and (unless they are factories), are to be inspected by the Sanitary Officers.

There are a few glovers in the Bromyard Rural District.

The provisions of the 1901 Act apply to Laundries which are now brought under the supervision of the Home Office and of the Sanitary Authority. Those laundries, however, are exempted in which the only persons employed are

- (a) Inmates of any prison, reformatory, or industrial school, or other institution for the time being subject to inspection under any Act other than the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 ; or
- (b) Inmates of any institution conducted in good faith for religious or charitable purposes ; or
- (c) Members of the same family dwelling there, or in which not more than two persons dwelling elsewhere are employed.

In my Report for 1901 I set out in detail the obligations of Rural District Councils with regard to Factories and Workshops on page 39, and with regard to bakehouses on page 41.

WORKERS IN LEAD.

Every medical practitioner attending a patient whom he believes to be suffering from lead, phosphorous, arsenical or mercurial poisoning or anthrax, contracted in a factory or workshop, is required by section 73 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, to notify the particulars to the Chief Inspector of Factories, the Home Office, London.

BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT.

	1891.	1901.	1905.
Area in acres (exclusive of water)	— ..	60,969 ..	60,969
Population (census)	8,213 ..	8,244 ..	
Population (Midsummer)	— ..	8,246 ..	8,262
Inhabited Houses (census)	1,828 ..	1,790 ..	
Persons per house	4.5 ..	4.6 ..	
Rateable Value 25th March	— ..	£64,866 ..	£64,336
A penny rate produces	— ..	£181 ..	£181
No. of parishes	— ..	32 ..	32
Death-rate all causes per 1,000	16.3 ..	12.2 ..	16.8
Corrected for sex and age	14.1 ..	10.6 ..	14.6
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	27.6 ..	23.5 ..	21.0

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER.

The Rural District of Bromyard, which entirely surrounds the Bromyard Urban District, is situated in the north-eastern side of the county. It is bounded on the north and east by Worcester-shire, on the south by the Ledbury Rural District, and on the west by the Hereford and Leominster Rural Districts. The district is a hilly one. On the eastern side Whitbourne is 200ft. above sea level, while Tedstone Wafer is 669ft., and the Ridgeway 650ft. Bishops Frome, in the south, is 262ft. In the west, Bredenbury is 755ft., and Hegdon Hill (the highest point in the district) is 829ft. Brockhampton, about the middle, is 700ft., and the Wall Hills, in the north, rise to a height of 738ft.

The district is well watered with streams from the hills, which empty into the rivers Ludon in the west, Frome in the middle of the district, and a tributary of the Teme in the east. All these rivers flow from north to south.

Geologically the district is chiefly Old Red Sandstone.

The subsoil is for the most part of clay or marl; in the parishes of Avenbury, Edvin Loach, and Whitbourne of sand, and in Whitbourne and the northern portion of Much Cowarne of gravel.

There are within the district 32 parishes, all of which are in the county of Hereford, in the Bromyard Poor-law Union and Bromyard Registration District, but the Poor-law Union and Registration District include the Bromyard Urban District, and are not therefore co-terminous with the Bromyard Rural District. The population in the 32 parishes at the census of 1901 varied from 3 in Saltmarshe to 1,194 in Cradley. In 7 parishes there were less than 100 persons (see p. 48). There are collections of houses into villages at Bishops Frome, Cradley, Stoke Lacy, Whitbourne and Pencombe; elsewhere houses are scattered.

There are 53 miles of county main roads and 128 miles of district roads in the Bromyard Rural District.

INDUSTRIES.

The industries are principally agricultural. Hops and fruit are largely grown, and there is extensive breeding of Herefordshire cattle. Quarries are worked in the parishes of Cradley, Norton, and Winslow. There are brickworks in the parishes of Linton, Hampton Charles, Much Cowarne, and Stanford Bishop. There are corn mills in the parishes of Acton Beauchamp, Avenbury, Bishops Frome, Cradley, Linton, Little Cowarne, Much Cowarne, Stoke Lacy, Tedstone Delamere, Thornbury, Wacton, Whitbourne, and Winslow. In Acton Beauchamp and Stanford Bishop glove-making is carried on by a few cottagers.

RECENT ALTERATIONS IN AREA.

These are set out in detail in my report for 1904, p. 40.

POPULATION.

The population of the Bromyard Rural Sanitary District at the census of 1891 was 10,562, and of the Rural District as it is now constituted, the population was 8,213. The alterations in area mentioned above account for the difference. The population of the Rural District at the census of 1901 was 8,244. Although there was during the ten years an increase of only 31 persons, a reference to the census returns (see p. 34), will show that there was an increase of population during that period in 14 of the 32 parishes amounting to 247 persons, while in 10 parishes there were in the aggregate 41 more houses occupied in 1901 than there were in 1891. The estimated population at the middle of 1905, upon which the figures in this report are based, is 8,262. It will be noticed that in Table 1 on page 49 in col. 2, there appears to be no regularity in the estimated increase or decrease in the populations for the ten years 1895—1904. These figures are, however, given haphazard, but are the result of careful inquiries and investigations in various quarters.

BIRTHS.

No. 174. Rate per 1,000, 21.0.

There were 174 births registered in the Bromyard Rural District during 1905, of which number 87 were boys and 87 girls, equal to a birth-rate per 1,000 of 21.0. This rate is 3.0 per 1,000 below that recorded in 1904, and 5.1 per 1,000 below the average rate of the previous ten years. The birth-rate in Rural England during 1905 was 26.3 per 1,000. A reference to page 4 will show that the birth-rate in the Bromyard Rural District is really higher than that prevailing in England and Wales.

In the registration sub-districts the birth-rates were

						Average of 10 years.	
						1905.	1895-1904.
Bromyard	..	..	..	..	..	20.0	26.2
Bishops Frome	..	..	..	..	..	22.8	26.6
Brockhampton	..	..	..	..	..	19.5	25.7

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

During 1905 there were registered in the Bromyard Rural District 7 illegitimate births, equal to 4.0 per cent. of the total births, or to 8.8 per 1,000 of the population living. In the Bishops Frome sub-district 5.0 per cent. of the births were illegitimate, and in Brockhampton 5.3 per cent. There were no illegitimate births in the Bromyard sub-district.

At the census of 1901 there were in the Bromyard Rural District 884 unmarried women and widows between the ages of 15 and 45 years. The proportion of illegitimate births per 1,000 of these women was thus 7.9, compared with 18.0, 16.9 and 19.6 per 1,000 in 1904, 1903 and 1902, and with 11.0 per 1,000 in the six combined rural districts in 1905.

DEATHS.

No. 136. Rate per 1,000, 16.4.

The number of deaths registered in the Bromyard Rural District during 1905 was 135, of which 67 were males and 68 females. Included in this number were six inmates of the Work-house, whose usual place of residence was in the Bromyard Urban District. Six residents of the Bromyard Rural District died

during the year in the County Asylum, and one in the Bromyard, Cottage Hospital. After making, therefore, these necessary adjustments, the number of deaths among residents in the Bromyard Rural District was 136 (69 males and 67 females), equal to a death-rate of 16.4 per 1,000. This rate is 3.4 per 1,000 above that recorded in 1904, and is 0.7 per 1,000 above the average death-rate of the previous ten years. (See Table 1, p. 49).

Among the inhabitants of the following six parishes having a population of 620 persons, no deaths occurred during 1905.—Grendon Bishop, Little Cowarne, Saltmarshe, Tedstone Wafer Tedstone Delamere, and Wolferlow.

In the registration sub-districts the death-rates were

	1905.	Average of 10 years. 1895. 1904.
Bromyard	13.3 ..	15.7
Brishops Fome	18.2 ..	15.9
Brockhampton	16.4 ..	15.3
Bromyard Rural District	16.4 ..	15.7

I do not think any good purpose would be served by recording the death-rate for each parish during a single year, the figures covering so short a period and for small populations would only be misleading.

In the six parishes, each of which has a population of more than 400 persons, the death-rates per 1,000 were as follows.—

	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
Cradley ..	13.4 ..	12.5 ..	16.7 ..	11.7 ..	10.0
Bishops Frome	14.1 ..	18.3 ..	16.9 ..	18.5 ..	21.4
Much Cowarne	20.6 ..	18.5 ..	6.1 ..	22.7 ..	22.6
Norton ..	14.0 ..	16.4 ..	18.7 ..	15.0 ..	12.7
Whitbourne ..	6.0 ..	19.6 ..	21.0 ..	15.0 ..	27.0
Linton	6.3 ..	14.6 ..	10.6 ..	16.8 ..	12.5

The death-rate in rural England in 1905 was 14.9 per 1000.

Although too much importance must not be attached to a high death-rate in a single year in a district with a population of less than 10,000 persons, we may profitably enquire whether there is an undue preponderance of deaths at any particular group of ages or from one or more diseases. Table A enables us to find that 52 per cent. of the deaths took place at the extremes of life—under one year and over 65 years of age. This percentage was 62, 63, and 50 in 1904, 1903, and 1902 respectively.

CORRECTED DEATH-RATE.—The death-rate among females is lower than it is among males, and it is also lower at ages between 5 year and 55 years than it is below or above this period, and as the proportion of females to males and of persons living at different age-periods varies in different localities, it is obviously necessary to make certain corrections if we are to compare with accuracy the death-rates in two or more districts. In order to make a true comparison with the rest of the country I have worked out the factor of correction for Bromyard Rural District, and the death-rate in 1905 thus corrected was 14.6 per 1,000, compared with a rate of 15.2 per 1,000 in England and Wales. The corrected average death-rate in the previous ten years in Bromyard Rural District was 13.6 per 1,000.

TABLE A.

The following Table gives the ages at death during 1905 in various groups for the Bromyard Rural District, the registration sub-districts, and the six largest parishes.

	All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 to 75.	75 to 85.	Over 85.
Rural District ..	136	19	1	2	7	15	28	24	21	7
SUB-DISTRICTS										
Bromyard	26	3	3	0	1	3	5	5	3	3
Bishops Frome ..	63	5	7	2	5	8	14	10	10	2
Brockhampton ..	47	11	3	0	1	4	9	9	8	2
PARISHES :										
Bishops Frome ..	15	1	0	0	1	2	6	2	3	0
Cradley	12	1	3	0	1	0	2	1	2	2
Linton	6	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	1
Much Cowarne ..	11	2	0	2	1	0	2	3	1	0
Norton	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0
Whitbourne ..	18	5	0	0	1	1	3	3	4	1

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

5.1 per cent. of the total deaths.

Of the 135 deaths registered in the Bromyard Rural District in 1905 there were 119 certified by registered medical practitioners, nine by the Coroner, and seven were uncertified. Given as percentages of the total deaths 88.3 per cent. were certified by medical practitioners, 6.6 per cent. by the Coroner, and 5.1 per cent. were uncertified. The proportion of uncertified deaths is high. The cause of death entered by the Registrars in the case of the seven uncertified deaths was—Senile decay (2), Premature birth, Convulsions, Bronchitis, Cerebral Hæmorrhage, Probably Exhaustion from rupture.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

							Average of 10½ years. 1895-1904.
							1905.
Bromyard Rural District	..	..	..	..	..	109	96
Rural England	..	..	..	..	..	113	..

The amount of child mortality is measured by stating the number of children who have died under one year old within a certain period in proportion to 1,000 births during the same period. In the Bromyard Rural District during 1905 there were born 174 children, and 19 children died under twelve months old. The infantile mortality rate was thus equal to 109 per 1,000 births. This number was above the average (96) for the previous ten years. In the registration sub-districts the infantile mortality rate was

								Average of 10 years. 1895-1904
								1905.
Bromyard	..	..	..	..	..	77	..	80
Bishops Cleeve	..	..	..	..	..	63	..	115
Brockhampton	..	..	..	..	..	196	..	81

The 19 children under 12 months old who died in the Bromyard Rural District during 1905 were certified as having died from the following causes:—Premature birth (3), Whooping Cough (3), Syphilis, Tubercular disease, Diarrhoea (2), Bronchitis (4), Marasmus (3), and Convulsions.

ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS.—There were no deaths among illegitimate children under twelve months old in the Bromyard Rural District during 1905 or 1904.

ZYMOTIC (INFECTIOUS) DISEASES.					Average of 10 years. 1895-1894.	
					1905.	
Death-rate per 1,000	..	..	..	..	0.96	0.50
„	„	Rural England	..	..	1.09	..

The seven diseases named below are those which are included in the expression “ principal zymotic diseases.”

					No. of cases. No. of deaths.	
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	0	0
Measles	..	..	..	..	*	2
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	13	1
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	*	3
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	4	0
Typhoid Fever	..	..	..	..	1	0
Diarrhœa	..	..	..	..	*	2

* Not notifiable.

SMALL-POX was not present in the district during 1905, 1904, or 1903.

MEASLES was prevalent in Cradley and Much Cowarne at the beginning of the year. One death occurred in each parish.

SCARLET FEVER.—Early in January four children were attacked with scarlet fever in Stanford Bishop in a house where gloves were being made by two members of the household for a Worcester firm, with whom I at once communicated, and all the work that had been in the infected house was destroyed. As we had not been supplied by the Town Clerk of Worcester with the names and addresses of out-workers in the Bromyard Rural District working for Worcester manufacturers, the attention of the District Council was drawn to the requirements of the Factory and Workshop Act (Sec. 107) and we now receive the necessary lists. None of the children affected were removed to the hospital, and one died. In the middle of February a maid-servant in a house in the parish of Winslow was removed to the hospital suffering from scarlet fever, and in September and October three patients were also removed from Ullingswick, Thornbury, and Wacton. No further cases occurred in these four parishes. At the end of November a case was reported from Avenbury. The patient remained at home, and by the end of the year three children in another house had been attacked. An isolated case was also reported from Acton Beauchamp. The history of scarlet fever in the Rural District in 1905 once more emphasizes the advantage of having an Isolation Hospital to which the initial case in a district can be sent.

DIPHTHERIA.—Four non-fatal cases of diphtheria were notified from two houses in two different parishes. One patient was removed to the hospital.

TYPHOID FEVER.—One non-fatal case of this disease occurred in the district during 1905. The patient was not a resident, and was undoubtedly infected before coming to the district.

DIARRHŒA.—Two deaths were registered as due to diarrhœa.

INFLUENZA.—Three deaths were registered from influenza.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—There was one non-fatal case of puerperal fever in the workhouse.

ERYSIPELAS.—Four non-fatal cases of erysipelas were notified from Bishops Frome, Much Cowarne, and Ocle Pychard.

PHTHISIS.					Average of 10 years.	
					1895-1904.	
					1905	
Death-rate per 1,000	..	..	..	1.08	..	0.76

The nine deaths from consumption occurred among residents in the following parishes :—Much Cowarne, Whitbourne, Edwin Ralph, Cradley, Ocle Pychard (2), Winslow, Ullingswick, and Bishops Frome. Six were males and three were females. Their ages at death ranged from 14 to 51 years.

CANCER.					Average of seven years.	
					1898 1904.	
					1905.	
Death-rate per 1,000	..	..	..	0.96	..	0.92

The eight deaths from Cancer—four males and four females—occurred among residents in the parishes of Bishops Frome, Ocle Pychard (3), Upper Sapey, Brockhampton, Linton, and Ullingswick. The ages at death ranged from 9 months to 76 years.

TABLE B.
BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT.
ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.

Name of Disease.	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	Total 1895 to 1904	1905
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	2	3	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	10	2
Scarlet Fever	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	6	1
Whooping Cough	0	1	0	1	0	2	3	0	5	2	14	3
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	0	1	2	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	8	0
Typhoid Fever	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Influenza	9	0	2	13	6	13	0	4	1	2	50	0
Diarrhœa	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	2
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	4	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Phthisis	8	5	10	2	3	7	8	11	5	4	63	9
Cancer .. .. .	..	..	..	5	7	7	5	9	13	7	* 53	8
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy, &c... .. .	29	20	15	11	12	10	10	19	23	12	161	22
Heart Diseases	29	19	18	12	12	10	3	18	10	10	141	11
Accidents	7	2	9	3	13	13	2	3	3	3	58	7

* Total for 7 years only.

BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT.

TABLE C.
BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT.
ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.

Year.	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Typhus Fever	Typhoid Fever	Diarrhoea & Dysentery	TOTAL
1875.....	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	7	10
1876.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
1877.....	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	4
1878.....	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	1	6
1879.....	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	3
1880.....	0	8	0	0	2	0	0	6	16
1881.....	0	0	5	2	0	2	1	2	12
1882.....	0	0	2	1	4	1	0	1	9
1883.....	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	2	6
1884.....	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	5
1885.....	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	4
1886.....	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	1	7
1887.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
1888.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1889.....	0	6	0	0	0	0	1	1	8
1890.....	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	4
1891.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1892.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1893.....	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	7
1894.....	0	3	1	6	1	0	0	0	11
1895.....	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
1896.....	0	3	0	1	1	0	1	1	7
1897.....	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
1898.....	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	4
1899.....	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	4
1900.....	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	4
1901.....	0	2	1	3	1	0	0	2	9
1902.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1903.....	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5
1904.....	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
1905 -	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	2	8

*Information not available,

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

There were treated in the Hospital during 1905 five scarlet fever patients and one diphtheria patient. The number treated in previous years was

1897—10 cases.	1901— 7 cases.
1898— 5 „	1902— 5 „
1899—10 „	1903— 5 „
1900— 5 „	1904— 7 „

From the Rural District there were removed four scarlet fever patients and one diphtheria patient; from the Urban District there was removed one scarlet fever patient.

The cost of the Joint Hospital in the past four years was as follows :—

Year ending March 31st	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
Repayment of Loans and interest	£104	£103	£102	£100	£99
Current Expenses	£94	£91	£103	£122	£94

A description of the Hospital will be found on p. 60 of my report for 1901.

WATER SUPPLY.

There is nowhere in the district any combined system of water supply. The majority of cottages have no water on the premises, but rely upon springs or dip wells, in some cases 300 or 400 yards distant. There is a noticeable absence of pumps in the district, All cottages with impervious roofs should be provided with eaves gutters and rain-water tanks.

NORTON WATER SUPPLY.—EXTRACT FROM A JOINT REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH LAID BEFORE THE COUNCIL ON APRIL 27TH, 1905.

“ There are 50 houses in Norton parish situated on Bromyard Downs between Downs Cottage on the south side and Pensax Road on the north. Included in these are 2 licensed houses, four small farm houses, and 44 cottages. All of them have either tiled or slated roofs, and are well provided with eaves gutters for the collection of rain water. The drinking water, and when there is no rain water that for other purposes also, for the two licensed houses, for one farm-house, and for 28 cottages is carried by hand from springs. The remaining 16 cottages obtain water from eight draw wells provided with windlasses and buckets, and from one well provided with a pump. All these wells, with two

exceptions, are situated within a few yards of the cottages served. At one of the farm-houses there is a well with a pump, and there are draw-wells at each of the other two. But the water from one of the draw wells and from the pump well is not used for drinking purposes, the spring water being obtained.

The springs are all well above the houses and at distances from them varying from 200 yards to $\frac{1}{2}$ half a mile. There are four springs made use of. The most northerly is called the Fox spring, and supplies the two licensed houses and three cottages. To the south of the Fox spring, and at a higher elevation, are three others. The first, which we call No. 3, is about 300 yards from Fox spring, the next, No. 2, is about 150 yards from No. 3, and the last or No. 1, is about 125 yards from No. 2."

A committee, to which the report was referred, ultimately adopted a scheme suggested by one of its members (Mr. R. Phipps), and subject to the consent of the Lord of the Manor, which at the time of writing has not been obtained, the work will be carried out.

DRAINAGE.

The larger residential houses in the district are provided with water closets, the drainage from which empties into cesspools or on to the adjoining land. Most of the farm houses and cottages have privy closets. Earth closets and pail closets are not at all commonly used.

There is no general system of drainage in the district, and far too many houses have drains discharging slop water into roadside ditches, where it lies stagnant until a storm washes it away. On page 13 will be found described a cheap and ready method of converting privy closets to earth closets.

Complaints were made during the year of discoloration of the water in the river Frome, more particularly at Bishops Frome, about five miles from Bromyard town. I visited the district upon several occasions, and inspected the stream, taking samples of water, which I subsequently examined. A committee of the Rural District Council was formed to consider the question, and communications were made to the Bromyard Urban District Council, the drainage from the town being said to enter the river untreated. At the time of writing the Urban Council are taking steps to treat the sewage by filtration before it is discharged into the river.

HOUSING.

The average number of persons per house at the last census was 4.6. No houses were certified by me during 1904 as uninhabitable under Sec. 30 of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.

The general remarks upon p. 17 as to the condition of the houses, and of the defects usually found apply fully to the Bromyard Rural District.

I think it would be an advantage if particulars of the water supply to all newly-erected houses were laid before the Council and formal certificates granted in accordance with Sec. 6 of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878.

PERMISSIVE POWERS.

The Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890, and the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, have not been adopted by the District Council, nor does the Council possess any of the urban powers of the Public Health Act, 1875.

The Council has not made any By-laws with respect to
Private scavenging.
Houses let in lodgings.
Hop and fruit-pickers.
Tents and vans.
Mortuaries and Cemeteries.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

There are no Regulations in force in the Bromyard Rural District under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885. In the year 1899 public notice was given of the necessity for registration. Copies of the Order were printed and distributed.

I reported during the year upon the desirability of making Regulations under the Order, and a communication was received from the Local Government Board upon the subject, but after discussing the model series issued by the Board, copies of which had been sent to each District Councillor, the Council decided not to make any Regulations. My report and the Regulations which have been made by the Hereford and Dore Rural District Councils will be found on page 23.

The number of dairies and cowsheds on the register at the end of 1905 was five. They are situated in the parishes of Cradley (2), Norton (1), and Winslow (2).

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The five slaughter-houses are in the parishes of Ocle Pychard, Stoke Laey, Bishops Frome, and Cradley (2). They are regularly inspected and are kept in a fairly clean condition. There are no By-laws in force with regard to slaughter-houses.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Mr. Thomas Barrs has been Inspector of Nuisances since 1875. He is re-appointed annually at a salary of £52 per annum, a moiety being paid by the County Council. He is also Inspector of Nuisances for the Bromyard Urban District.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Cases inquired into	19
Patients removed to hospital	5
Houses disinfected and cleansed	9
Lots of bedding, clothing, &c., disinfected	9
Cases of illegal exposure	0
Schools disinfected	0

HOUSES.

Erected	2
Made fit for habitation	2
Closed as unfit for habitation	0
Cleansed and whitewashed	3
Overcrowding abated	0
Workshops whitewashed	0

WATER SUPPLY.

Wells sunk	2
Wells cleansed and repaired	1
Wells closed	1
Samples of water sent for analysis	6

HOUSE DRAINS.

Laid or relaid	3
Cleansed, trapped, and ventilated	3
Defective waste-pipes rectified	0
Insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified	2
Dumb wells rectified	1

WATER CLOSETS.

Additional provided	4
Repaired, ventilated, or provided with cisterns	0

PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

New privies provided	0
Converted to earth closets	1
Converted into pail closets	0
Repaired	0

SCAVENGING.

Privies and ashpits cleansed	2
Removals of offensive refuse	2

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

On register	5
Cleansed and repaired	5

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

On register and inspected	5
Contraventions of D.C. and M. Order	0

UNSOUND FOOD.

Seizures	0
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CLERICAL WORK.

Letters written	30
Notices served	1
Notices complied with	0
Notices outstanding	1

THOMAS BARRS,

Inspector of Nuisances.

January 7th, 1906.

REMARKS.—The Slaughter-houses and Schools were visited regularly and generally found very clean; it would be a decided improvement though if some of the school privies were emptied oftener.

The question of an efficient water supply for 16 houses at Munderfield is still in abeyance, but as regards the Little Cowarne water supply something has been done in the matter by the landlords. Some of the houses have a supply from wells recently sunk.

There were no epidemics during the year.

BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT.

CENSUS RETURNS.

Sub-districts and Parishes.	Area in Acres.	Inhabited Houses.		Population		Persons per house.	
		1891	1901	1891	1901	1891	1901
BROMYARD	18432	398	408	1859	1911	4.7	4.7
Bredenbury	852	19	21	110	119	5.7	5.7
Felton	1151	16	14	85	69	5.3	4.5
Grendon Bishop	1698	29	27	137	128	4.7	4.7
Little Cowarne	693	35	36	160	151	4.6	4.2
Moreton Jeffries	708	9	9	43	40	4.8	4.4
Pencombe	4764	62	58	290	300	4.7	5.2
Stoke Lacy	2584	73	76	321	340	4.4	4.5
Ullingswick	1665	58	60	273	281	4.7	4.7
Wacton	1217	21	23	110	111	5.2	4.8
Winslow	3100	76	84	330	372	4.3	4.4
BISHOPS FROME	21945	786	761	3460	3461	4.4	4.5
Ac on Beauchamp	1544	42	44	216	218	5.1	5.0
Avenbury	2912	71	68	306	334	4.3	4.9
Bishops Frome	3983	173	161	718	707	4.2	4.4
Cradley	5782	278	278	1189	1194	4.3	4.3
Evesbatch	975	12	10	54	53	4.5	5.3
Much Cowarne	3330	111	96	495	487	4.5	5.1
Ocle Pychard	1905	54	66	289	295	5.4	4.5
Stanford Bishop	1514	45	38	193	173	4.3	4.6
BROCKHAMPTON	20668	644	621	2894	2872	4.5	4.6
Brockhampton	1596	18	26	72	108	4.0	4.2
Collington	1000	25	24	121	114	4.8	4.8
Edvin Leach	533	7	7	48	37	6.9	5.3
Edvin Ralph	1228	20	20	100	110	5.0	5.5
Hampton Charles	481	17	16	81	79	4.8	4.9
Linton *	2331	92	89	432	470	4.7	5.3
Norton	1734	102	98	492	426	4.8	4.3
Saltmarsh	429	1	1	17	3	17.0	3.0
Tedone Delamer	1692	41	39	203	180	5.0	4.6
Tedstone Wafer	687	18	18	83	79	4.6	4.4
Thornbury	2399	43	44	193	210	4.5	4.8
Upper Sapey	2471	66	62	266	286	4.0	4.6
Whitbourne	3104	172	156	668	665	4.1	4.3
Wolfslow	1583	22	21	118	105	5.4	5.0
RURAL DISTRICT	61045	1828	1790	8213	8241	4.5	4.6

* The population of the Workhouse, 57 in 1891 and 88 in 1901, is included.

TABLE I. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).
BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1905
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 year of age		At all ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895..	8763	281	32.0	31	110	166	18.9	21	9	2	159	18.1
1896..	8765	270	30.7	23	86	131	14.9	17	5	4	130	14.8
1897†	8233	229	27.8	25	108	147	17.8	15	2	3	148	17.9
1898..	8235	218	26.4	25	114	130	15.7	15	4	6	132	16.0
1899..	8240	223	27.0	22	98	141	17.1	20	7	3	137	16.6
1900..	8243	197	23.8	16	81	120	14.5	10	2	7	125	15.1
1901..	8246	194	23.5	18	92	107	12.8	29	7	1	101	12.2
1902..	8250	183	22.1	19	104	148	17.9	19	4	2	146	17.6
1903..	8254	193	23.3	24	124	124	15.0	19	2	4	126	15.2
1904..	8258	199	24.0	8	40	106	12.8	21	2	4	108	13.0
Averages for years 1895-1904	8348	219	26.1	21	96	132	15.7	19	4	4	131	15.7
1905	8262	174	21.0	19	109	135	16.3	28	6	7	136	16.4

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

† Alteration of area (See page 3.)

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

† The "Public Institutions" taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are the Workhouse and Isolation Hospital within the district (Cols. 9 and 10), and the County Asylum, Hereford Hospital, and Bromyard Hospital beyond the district (Col. 11).

The Union Workhouse is within the district.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).	60,969	Total population at all ages	8,244	At Census of 1901.
		Number of inhabited houses	1,790	
		Average number of persons per house ..	4.6	

TABLE II. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.)

BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICTS IN 1905
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.*Corrected for Residents and Non-residents.*

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	BROMYARD SUB-DISTRICT.				BISHOPS FROME SUB-DISTRICT.				BROCKHAMPTON SUB-DISTRICT.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
1895.....	1871	81	29	8	1008	115	69	14	2884	87	61	8
1896.....	1878	40	23	3	4005	139	64	16	2882	91	43	3
1897.....	1885	60	36	5	†3468	89	65	14	2889	80	47	6
1898.....	1892	44	34	7	3165	90	48	9	2878	84	50	9
1899.....	1899	45	35	3	3465	103	61	12	2876	75	41	7
1900.....	1906	56	29	5	3463	71	56	9	2874	70	40	2
1901.....	1913	40	23	6	3461	88	52	6	2872	66	26	5
1902.....	1920	45	37	2	3160	76	63	7	2870	62	46	9
1903.....	1928	49	31	3	3158	74	48	16	2868	70	47	5
1904.....	1936	41	20	1	3156	101	48	5	2866	57	40	5
Averages for years 1895 to 1904	1903	50 *26·2	30 *15·7	4 †80	3571	95 *26·6	57 *15·9	11 †115	2870	74 *25·7	44 *15·3	6 †81
1905	1943	39 *20·0	26 *13·3	3 †77	3455	79 *22·8	43 *18·2	5 †63	2864	56 *19·5	47 *16·4	11 †96

NOTES.—

- (1) The separate localities adopted for this Table are the registration sub-districts.
- (2) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are included in sub-columns *c* of this Table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded.
- (3) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.
- (4) The gross totals of the several columns in this Table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV.; thus, the totals of sub-columns *a*, *b* and *c* agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3 and 12 respectively of Table I.; the gross total of the sub-column *c* agrees with the total of column 2 in Table IV., and the gross total of sub-column *d* with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

* Rate per 1000 persons living.

† Rate per 1000 births, or infantile mortality rate

‡ Alteration of area (See page 34).

TABLE III. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).
BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICT.			NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICT		
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.					1 BROM- YARD SUB- DISTRICT	2 BISHOPS FROME H.	3 BROCK- HAM- TON H.	1 BROM- YARD SUB- DISTRICT	2 BISHOPS FROME. H.	3 BROCK- HAM- TON H.
		Und'r 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65							65 and up- wards
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria.....	4	0	0	3	1	0	0	4	0	0	1	0
Membranous Croup ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas.....	5	0	0	0	0	5	1	1	3	0	0	0
Scarlet fever.....	13	0	2	9	1	1	3	9	1	3	0	1
Typhus fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric fever.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Relapsing fever.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Continued fever.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal fever.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals.....	24	0	2	12	2	8	4	15	5	3	1	1

NOTES.—The localities adopted for this Table are the same as those in Tables II. and IV.

H.—The Bromyard Joint (U. and R.) Isolation Hospital is situated in the Brockhampton Registration Sub-District.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alcoholism	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Premature Birth	4	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	3	0
Heart Diseases	7	0	0	0	0	3	4	2	0	5	2
Heart disease (valvular)	7	0	3	0	0	4	4	0	5	5	0
Accidents	8	0	0	0	0	5	3	2	3	3	1
Apoplexy	5	0	0	0	0	3	2	2	3	3	4
Nephritis	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Convulsions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Asthenia	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	0
Cystitis	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1
Marasmus	24	0	0	0	0	0	24	5	11	8	0
Old age	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	9
Severe Gangrene	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Natural causes	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Lardaceous disease	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Gall stones	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
Syphilis	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Peritonitis	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Appendicitis	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Strangulated Hernia	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Intestinal obstruction	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Exhaustion	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Suicide	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
All other causes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All causes	136	19	13	2	7	43	52	26	63	47	28

TABLE V. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).

BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING YEAR, 1905.

*Corrected for Residents and Non-Resident.*Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under
One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year
ALL CAUSES.																	
Certified	3	1	..	..	4	4	2	1	1	1	..	..	2	1	..	..	16
Uncertified	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3
Small-pox
Chicken-pox
Measles
Scarlet Fever
Diphtheria : Croup
Whooping Cough	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Diarrhœa, all forms	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Enteritis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh
Premature Birth	3	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Congenital Defects
Injury at Birth
Want of Breast-milk
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Tuberculous Meningitis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica
Other Tuberculous Diseases
Erysipelas
Syphilis	*1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rickets
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)
Convulsions	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1
Bronchitis	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Laryngitis
Pneumonia
Suffocation, overlaying	1	..	..	..
Cancer of face	1
	4	1	0	0	5	4	2	2	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	19

None of above deaths were of illegitimate children. * Child of Tramp.

Rural District of BROMYARD :—Population (estimated to middle of 1905), 8262.

Births in the year :—Legitimate, 167 ; illegitimate, 7

Deaths from all causes at all ages (corrected for Residents and Non-residents) 136

BROMYARD RURAL DISTRICT.

WORKSHOPS.

From information furnished by the Sanitary Inspector, I have made a Register of the Workshops situated within the Bromyard Urban District.

Attention has been paid during the year to the lime-washing of Blacksmiths' Shops.

The following is a summary of the Register of Workshops.

PARISH.	Bootmaker.	Blacksmith	Builder	Carpenter.	Cooper	Dressmaker.	Machinist.	Tailor.	Wheelwright	TOTAL.
Acton Beauchamp ..	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
Avenbury	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	4
Collington	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Cowarne-Little .. .	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Cowarne-Much .. .	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	2	7
Cradley	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	9
Edvin Ralph	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Frome-Bishop	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	7
Grendon Bishop .. .	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Hampton Charles ..	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Linton	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4
Norton	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ocle Pychard	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
Pencombe	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Stanford Bishop .. .	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
Stoke Lacy	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	4
Tadstone Delamere ..	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Thornbury	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ullingswick	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Upper Sapey	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Whitbourne	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	5
Wolverlow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total - - -	8	24	4	13	1	1	1	4	17	73

Number of Inspections of Workshops.. .. .	36
" " Homeworkers Premises.. .. .	7
Defects Found.. .. .	0

DORE RURAL DISTRICT.

	1891.		1901.		1905
Area in acres (exclusive of water)	—	..	68,749	..	68,749
Population (Census)	7,112	..	6,742	..	
„ (Midsummer)	—	..	6,738	..	6,592
Inhabited houses (Census) ..	1,606	..	1,555	..	—
Persons per house	4.4	..	4.3	..	—
Rateable Value 25th March ..	£73,732	..	£68,858	..	£71,981
A penny rate produces	—	..	—	..	£229
No. of parishes	—	..	26	..	26
Death-rate all causes per 1,000..	21.5	..	15.1	..	16.2
Corrected for sex and age	18.6	..	13.1	..	14.0
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	26.8	..	24.9	..	25.3

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER.

The Rural District of Dore is situated in the south-western corner of the county, and is bounded on the north by the Hay and Weobley Rural Districts, on the east by the Hereford and Ross Rural Districts, on the south by Monmouthshire, and on the west by Monmouthshire. The Black Mountains form the boundary of the district on the western side, and rise to a height of 2,306ft. There is a range of hills on the eastern side running from north to south-east. Orcop hill in the west is 958ft. high, Pontrilas at the foot of Orcop hill is 250ft., and Bradley, in the north-east, is 254ft. above sea-level.

The district is well watered, streams from the surrounding hills emptying into the rivers Monnow and Dore. The Monnow, which rises in the north-west, flows due south to the boundary of the Dore district, and then in a north-easterly direction, forming the southern boundary. The river Dore flows along the Golden Valley, through the centre of the district from north to south.

Geologically the district is Old Red Sandstone. Garway hill and Stockley hill are of Cornstone formation.

In a large portion of the district there is a sandy subsoil, though in a few parishes, noticeably in Kenderchurch, St. Devereux, Vowchurch, and Walterstone, there is a subsoil of marl and clay.

There are within the Dore Rural District 26 parishes, all of which are in the county of Hereford, in the Dore Poor-law Union, and in the Hereford Registration district, but the Poor-law Union and Registration district include the parishes of Grosmont and Llangua, in the Abergavenny Rural District of the County of Monmouth, and are not co-terminous with the Dore Rural District. The population in the 26 parishes of the Dore Rural District at the census of 1901 varied from 40 in Turnastone to 685 in Madley. In five parishes there were less than 100 inhabitants (see p. 68). There are collections of houses into villages at Peterchurch, Ewyas Harold, Kentchurch (Pontrilas), Longtown, Kingstone, and Madley; elsewhere the houses are more or less scattered.

There are 41 miles of county main roads and 188 miles of district roads in the Dore Rural District.

INDUSTRIES.

The industries are almost exclusively agricultural. Hops are cultivated on the eastern border, and apples are extensively grown thorough the district. There is also breeding of Herefordshire cattle. At Pontrilas, in the parish of Kentchurch, there are small chemical works, and there are quarries in the parishes of Peterchurch, Kentchurch, Orcop, Tyberton, Abbeydore, Baeton, Rowstone, Llaneillo, Longtown, Llanveynoe, Crasswall, and Newton. There are brickworks in Kentchurch and in St. Devereux. In the parish of Vowchurch there is also a large steam flour mill, and there are corn mills in the parishes of Abbeydore, Crasswall, Kilpeck, Kingstone, Longtown, Madley, Michaelchurch, Peterchurch, Rowstone, Vowchurch, and Wormbridge.

RECENT ALTERATIONS IN AREA.

Details of recent alterations in the area of the Dore Rural District will be found on p. 62 of my Report for 1904.

POPULATION.

The population of the Dore Rural District as at present constituted was in 1891—7,112, but in estimating the population for the succeeding years it has been necessary to take into account the alteration in area mentioned above. The population at the

1901 census was 6,742. Although in the whole district there was a decrease in the ten years of 370 persons, there was an aggregate increase in ten of the 26 parishes of 186 persons (see p. 68)! The estimated population at the middle of 1905, and upon which the figures in this report are based, is **9,592**.

BIRTHS.

No. 165. Rate per 1,000, 25.3.

There were 165 births registered in the Dore Rural District during 1905, of which 91 were boys and 74 girls, equal to a birth-rate per 1,000 of 25.3. This rate is 0.9 per 1,000 below that recorded in 1904 and 0.7 per 1,000 below the average rate of the previous ten years. The birth-rate in Rural England during 1905 was 26.3 per 1,000. A reference to p. 4 will show that the birth-rate in the Dore Rural District is really considerably higher than that prevailing in England and Wales.

In the registration sub-districts the birth-rates were :—

							Average of 10 years.	
1905.							1895—1904	
Madley	..	..	..	..	..	23.7	..	25.3
Clodock	..	..	..	..	..	24.7	..	24.5
Kentchurch	..	..	..	..	..	26.4	..	27.9

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

During 1905 there were registered in the Dore Rural District 10 illegitimate births, equal to 6.0 per cent. of the total births, or to 1.5 per 1,000 of the population living. In the Madley sub-district 1.8 per cent. of the births were illegitimate, in Clodock 2.0 per cent., and in Kentchurch 12.0 per cent. At the census of 1901 there were in the Dore Rural District 767 unmarried women and widows between the ages of 15 and 45 years. The proportion of illegitimate births per 1,000 of these women was thus 13.0 compared with 7.8, 15.6 and 13.0 per 1,000 in 1904, 1903, and 1902, and with 11.0 per 1,000 in the six Combined Rural Districts in 1905.

DEATHS.

No. 105. Rate per 1,000, 16.2.

The number of deaths registered in the Dore Rural District during 1905 was 104, of which 59 were males and 45 females. One resident in the Dore Rural District died during the year in the County Asylum and one in the Herefordshire General Hospital, and a non-resident in the Dore Rural District died in the Abbeydore Workhouse. After making, therefore, these necessary adjustments, the number of deaths among residents in the Dore Rural District was 105 (61 males and 44 females), equal to a death-rate of 16.2 per 1,000. This rate is 2.2 per 1,000 above that recorded in 1904, and is 0.9 per 1,000 below the average death-rate of the previous 10 years. (See Table 1, p. 69).

No deaths occurred during 1905 in the three following parishes having an aggregate population of 207—Thrupton, Turnastone, and Wormbridge.

In the registration sub-districts the death-rates were

	1905.	Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
Madley	18.1	17.8
Clodock	14.4	17.0
Kentchurch	14.9	15.9
Dore Rural District	16.2	17.1

I do not think any good purpose would be served by recording the death-rate for each parish during a single year, the figures covering so short a period and for small populations would only be misleading.

In the six parishes, each of which has a population of more than 400 persons, the death-rates per 1,000 were as follows:—

	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
Abbeydore	10.9	6.6	11.1	6.6	10.0
Ewyas Harold	8.3	23.4	12.7	17.1	11.3
Longtown	21.5	27.0	18.1	27.8	24.3
Madley	16.5	19.1	18.1	12.2	17.0
Orcop	19.5	6.5	21.3	21.8	26.3
Peterchurch	8.4	22.0	16.6	19.3	15.9

The death-rate in Rural England during 1905 was 14.9 per 1,000.

TABLE A.

The following Table gives the ages at death during 1905 in various groups for the Dore Rural District, the registration sub-districts, and the six largest parishes.

TABLE A.

	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 to 85	Over 85
Dore	104	8	5	6	3	15	22	18	23	5
SUB-DISTRICTS :										
Madley	42	3	2	4	0	5	10	5	9	4
Clodock	28	2	0	0	1	3	5	11	5	1
Kentchurch ..	35	3	3	2	2	7	7	2	9	0
PARISHES :										
Abbeydore ..	5	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	0
Ewyas Harold ..	11	3	0	0	0	1	4	1	2	0
Longtown	13	1	0	0	0	1	2	6	3	0
Madley	11	0	0	2	0	3	5	0	1	0
Orcop	12	0	2	2	1	3	1	0	3	0
Peterchurch ..	9	2	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	0

CORRECTED DEATH-RATE.—The death-rate among males is higher than it is among females, and it is also higher at ages below five years and above 55 years than it is in the intervening periods, and as the proportion of males to females and the proportion of persons living at different age-periods varies in different localities it is obviously necessary to make certain corrections in order to accurately compare the death-rates of two or more districts. In order to make a true comparison with the rest of the country I have worked out the factor of correction for the Dore District, and the death-rate from all causes in 1905 thus corrected was 14.0 per 1,000. In England and Wales the death-rate during the same period was 15.2 per 1,000. The corrected average death-rate in the previous ten years in Dore was 14.8 per 1,000.

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

6.6 per cent. of the total deaths.

Of the 104 deaths registered in the Dore Rural District in 1905 there were 94 certified by registered medical practitioners, 4 by the Coroner, and 6 were uncertified. Given as percentages of the total deaths, 90 per cent. were certified by medical practitioners, 4 per cent. by the Coroner, and 6 per cent. were uncertified. The proportion of uncertified deaths is high. The cause of deaths entered by the Registrars in the case of the uncertified deaths was—Heart failure (3), Influenza, Venous thrombosis, Old age.

There were no uncertified deaths in the Madley Registration Sub-district.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

						Average of 10 years.	
						1905.	1895—1904.
Dore Rural District	..	..	..	..	..	48	89
Rural England	..	..	..	..	..	113	—

The amount of child mortality is measured by stating the number of children who have died under one year old within a certain period in proportion to 1,000 births during the same period. In the Dore Rural District during 1905 there were born 165 children, and 8 children died under 12 months old. The infantile mortality rate was thus equal to 48 per 1,000 births. This number was below the overage (89) for the previous ten years. In the Registration Sub-districts the infantile mortality rate was

						Average of 10 years.	
						1905.	1895—1904.
Madley	..	..	..	..	..	54	114
Clodock	..	..	..	..	..	41	102
Kentchurch	..	..	..	..	..	48	74

The 8 children who died under 12 months old in the Dore Rural District during 1905 were certified as having died from the following causes:—Premature birth (3), Convulsions (2), Pneumonia, Rickets, and Debility.

ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS.—There were no deaths among illegitimate children under 12 months old in the Dore Rural District during 1903, 1904, or 1905.

ZYMOTIC (INFECTIOUS) DISEASES. Average of
10 years,

	1905.	1895—1904.
Death-rate per 1,000 	0.64	0.47
„ „ Rural England 	1.09	—

The seven diseases named below are those which are included in the expression “ principal zymotic diseases.”

	No. of cases.	No. of deaths.
Small-pox 	0	0
Measles 	*	0
Scarlet Fever 	9	0
Whooping Cough 	*	3
Diphtheria 	4	0
Typhoid Fever 	3	1
Diarrhœa 	*	0

* Not notifiable.

SMALL-POX was not present in any part of the district during 1903, 1904, or 1905.

SCARLET FEVER.—Nine non-fatal cases of scarlet fever were reported from 8 houses in six parishes. At no time was the disease epidemic. All the cases were treated at home.

DIPHTHERIA.—Four non-fatal cases of diphtheria were reported from three houses in three parishes distant from each other.

TYPHOID FEVER.—There was one fatal case of typhoid fever during the year, and two non-fatal cases. Each patient lived in a different parish.

PHTHISIS. Average of
10 years,

	1905.	1895—1904.
Death-rate per 1,000 	1.21	1.20

The eight deaths from consumption occurred among residents in the following seven parishes :—Kingstone, Orcop (2), Peterchurch, Crasswall, Abbeydore, Dulas, and St. Devereux. Six were males and two females ; their ages varied from 16 years to 40 years.

CANCER. Average of
10 years,

	1905.	1895—1904.
Death-rate per 1,000 	1.36	0.72

The nine deaths from cancer—three males and six females—occurred among residents in the parishes of Peterchurch (3), Kingstone (2), Madley (2), Llanveynoe, and Abbeydore. The ages at death were from 54 to 80 years.

TABLE B.
DORE RURAL DISTRICT.
ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.

Name of Disease.	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	Total 1895 to 1904	1905
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles.. .. .	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	5	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0
Whooping Cough.. .. .	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	0	2	4	12	3
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ..	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	0
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Influenza	9	4	9	12	5	4	6	2	0	1	52	2
Diarrhœa	1	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	8	0
Puerperal Fever	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	0
Erysipelas	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	5	0
Phthisis	12	6	5	6	9	6	15	9	5	9	82	8
Cancer	3	2	6	4	5	2	4	4	11	9	50	9
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy, &c.	13	4	10	8	10	8	12	16	11	26	118	20
Heart Diseases	8	4	1	8	3	7	13	15	19	22	100	18
Accidents	2	2	3	2	3	1	3	3	2	2	23	2

ISOLATION ACCOMMODATION.

In the year 1898 a corrugated iron hospital was erected by the District Council, at a cost of £255, on land adjoining the Workhouse at Abbeydore. There is accommodation for four patients in two wards. Its proximity to the Workhouse, where there are approaching 100 occupants, renders it impossible to use the hospital for the district generally. Especially is this the case as regards small-pox. It has not been occupied since it was erected. The district may, therefore, be said to be without proper isolation hospital accommodation. (See p. 9).

WATER SUPPLY.

I have not been able to find a definite resolution of the Sanitary Authority relating to a "reasonable distance" within which water should be supplied to houses, but there appears to be a tradition that it should be 500 yards in the case of old and 200 yards in the case of new houses.

There are combined water supplies in the parishes of Kentchurch, Pontrilas, Peterchurch, Vowchurch, and Michaelchurch.

The Pontrilas supply is from a spring on the hillside to a tank and thence by pipes to nearly all the houses (25 or 30) in the village.

At Peterchurch all the houses (30 or 40) are supplied through galvanised iron pipes from a brick tank immediately below a spring on the side of Stockley Hill.

The Vowchurch houses receive water through a pipe from the "heavenly well." Two houses (Shegear) in this parish are supplied with water pumped by a ram from a spring some 300 yards distant.

In Michaelchurch parish there are 7 or 8 houses supplied with water brought in galvanised iron pipes from a hillside spring.

In the Walterstone parish two wells were sunk in the year 1896 by the District Council at the cost of the owners of houses located on Walterstone Common. They are both deep wells and the water is good.

Elsewhere water is obtained from deep and shallow wells, dip wells and springs, many of the last being on the roadside.

Two springs (one in Kenderchurch, the other in Orcop), which were liable to be polluted, and from which water is used in adjoining cottages, were covered in and provided with pumps.

The water supply of Longtown has been engaging the attention of the Council during the past year, and there seems to be some prospect of the houses in the upper part of the district being provided with an adequate supply.

DRAINAGE AND EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

There is combined drainage for a few houses in the parishes of Ewyas Harold, Madley, and Peterchurch. Elsewhere slop-water drains frequently discharge into roadside ditches or from farm houses on to land or into fold yards. Large residential houses have water closets, and the drainage is usually discharged on to land, with or without the intervention of a cesspool, or in some cases directly into a watercourse. The drainage from the Workhouse, where there are six water closets, discharges into a ditch, and thence into a brook.

Privy closets are commonly found in connection with farm houses or cottages, though there are a fair number of earth closets and pail closets. A few years ago the Dore Council issued a printed memorandum with diagrams describing a ready and cheap method of converting privy closets into pail or earth closets. (See p. 13).

HOUSING.

There are many houses in the district well built and cared for, noticeably in Kentchurch (Pontrilas), where bricks from a local brickworks have been used in construction, in Bacton parish and in parts of Abbeydore parish. On the other hand, there are cottages in Abbeydore parish, on Ewyas Harold Common, Barrow Common (Kingstone), and in Orcop parish, which are very near the borderland of habitable and uninhabitable houses. A fair proportion of houses are half timbered and thatched, and are of such an age that they require constant repair. The absence of rainwater gutters to carry off the rain is everywhere very noticeable, and tends to keep many houses, which in other respects cannot be adversely criticised, permanently damp and unhealthy.

No houses were certified by me as uninhabitable under Sec. 30 of the Housing or the Working Classes Act, 1890.

PERMISSIVE POWERS.

The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, and the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, have not ^{yet} been adopted by the District Council, nor does the Council possess any of the Urban powers of the Public Health Act, 1875.

The Council has not made any By-laws with respect to

Common Lodging-houses.

Private scavenging.

Houses let in lodgings.

Hop and fruit pickers.

Tents and vans.

Mortuaries and Cemeteries.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885, were made by the Dore Rural District Council in 1905. They have been printed or circulated, and will be found set out on p. 25. Public notice was given during the year of the necessity for registration.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are three slaughter-houses in the district, situated in the parishes of Ewyas Harold, Madley, and Longtown. The Madley slaughter-house is a very well constructed brick building and is well kept, that at Ewyas Harold is built of wood and has a fairly good brick floor. There are no by-laws in force with respect to slaughter-houses.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging-houses in the Dore district, and I cannot ascertain that any by-laws have been made with respect to this class of house.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are public bakehouses in the parishes of Longtown, Vowchurch, Abbeydore, Peterchurch, Madley, and Ewyas Harold. They are all kept in a fairly good condition.

SANITARY INSPECTORS.

There are two Inspectors of Nuisances in the Dore district each of whom also acts as Surveyor, and Mr. Gwillim is Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

Mr. P. Gwillim was appointed about the year 1875, and is re-elected yearly. He receives a salary of £20 per annum as Inspector of Nuisances. He pays his own travelling expenses (including the keep of a horse) and other incidental expenses, except stamps and stationery. His district includes the Clodock Registration Sub-district, and has an area of 28,443 acres, and a population of about 2,000.

Mr. J. Lewis was appointed in the year 1889, and controls a district which includes the Registration Sub-districts of Madley and of Kentchurch, excluding the parishes of Grosmont and Llangua, in the Abergavenny Rural District. He receives a salary of £40 per annum, and pays his own travelling expenses (including the keep of a horse) and incidental expenses, except stamps and stationery.

There was correspondence during 1901 between the Local Government Board and the Council with regard to the office of Inspector of Nuisances. The Board is desirous of one officer being appointed who should be entirely employed as Inspector of Nuisances, and as the Council was not disposed to acquiesce in this arrangement, the Board did not sanction the re-appointment of Messrs. Gwillim and Lewis from October 1st, 1902, and again from October 1st, 1903, 1904, and 1905, with the result that the Council does not obtain a moiety of the Inspectors' salaries from the County Council.

DORE RURAL DISTRICT.

CENSUS RETURNS.

Sub-districts and Parishes.	Area in Acres.	Inhabited Houses.		Population.		Persons per house.	
		1891	1901	1891	1901	1891	1901
MADLEY	19966	587	566	2564	2381	4.3	4.2
Kingstone	2026	93	90	369	347	3.9	3.8
Madley	5358	170	161	767	685	4.5	4.2
Peterchurch	5161	141	136	627	590	3.8	4.3
St. Margaret	2609	61	60	237	213	3.8	3.5
Thrupton	428	12	13	59	67	4.9	5.1
Tiberton	1126	28	28	126	151	4.5	5.3
Turnastone	539	10	10	58	48	5.8	5.8
Vowchurch	2716	72	68	311	280	4.3	4.1
KENTCHURCH	19648	534	512	2174	2382	4.6	4.6
Abbeydore*	5503	78	78	480	456	6.1	5.5
Ewyas Harold	1853	124	113	507	476	4.0	4.2
Kenderchurch	846	12	12	62	69	5.1	5.7
Kentchurch	3353	68	61	346	319	5.0	5.0
Kilpeck	2169	48	47	213	197	4.4	4.1
Orcop	2465	113	109	474	461	4.1	4.2
St. Devereux	1102	43	46	161	171	3.8	3.7
Treville	1625	33	28	142	150	4.3	4.3
Wormbridge	732	15	15	86	83	5.7	5.7
CLODOCK	28443	485	477	2074	1979	4.2	4.1
Bacton	1178	24	25	117	148	4.8	5.9
Craswall	5179	60	57	272	225	4.5	3.9
Dulas	869	14	13	83	79	5.9	6.0
Llancillo	1086	12	12	60	66	5.0	5.5
Llanveynoe	4610	43	46	191	187	4.4	4.0
Longtown	6260	154	149	610	558	3.9	3.8
Michaelchurch Ercley	4586	73	76	283	299	3.8	3.9
Newton	1754	48	43	223	174	3.6	2.5
Rowlstone	1667	27	23	136	119	5.0	5.1
Walterstone	1251	30	33	99	124	3.3	3.7
RURAL DISTRICT	68057	1606	1555	7112	6742	4.4	4.3

*The population of the Workhouse 99 in 1891 and 86 in 1901 is included.

TABLE I. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.)

DORE RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1905 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.			NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate*	Under 1 year of age		At all ages.		Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.		Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number.	Rate.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	+9	+10	+11	12	13
1895 ..	6956	172	24.7	12	69	109	15.6	12	0	2	111	18.6
1896 ..	6920	190	27.4	15	78	104	15.0	7	0	2	106	15.9
1897 ..	6884	175	25.4	27	154	140	20.3	12	0	2	142	15.3
1898 ..	6848	197	28.7	16	81	119	17.3	6	0	1	120	20.6
1899 ..	6812	174	25.5	15	86	117	17.1	7	1	3	119	17.5
1900 ..	6775	157	23.1	19	121	110	16.2	10	1	4	113	17.4
1901 ..	6738	168	24.9	9	53	96	14.2	8	1	7	102	16.6
1902 ..	6700	183	27.3	16	87	101	15.0	7	0	2	103	15.1
1903 ..	6664	181	27.1	10	55	100	15.0	10	2	6	104	15.6
1904 ..	6628	174	26.2	18	103	120	17.9	6	0	4	124	18.4
Averages for years 1895-1904	6793	177	26.0	16	89	112	16.4	9	.5	3	114	17.1
1905	6592	165	25.3	8	48	104	15.8	4	1	2	105	16.2

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

† The "Public Institutions" taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are the Workhouse within the district (Columns 9 and 10), and the County Asylum and Hereford Hospital beyond the district (Column 11).

The Union Workhouse is within the District.

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water).	68,749	Total population at all ages.....	6,742	} At Census of 1901
		Number of inhabited houses.....	1,555	
		Average number of persons per house..	4.3	

TABLE II. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).

DORE RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICTS IN 1905
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.*Corrected for Residents and Non-residents.*

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	MADLEY DISTRICT.				CLODOCK DISTRICT				KENTCHURCH DISTRICT.			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to Middle of each Year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to Middle of each Year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>
1895....	2488	64	39	7	2032	44	32	2	2436	64	40	3
1896....	2470	73	41	6	2023	53	27	6	2427	64	38	3
1897....	2452	64	49	11	2014	17	44	6	2418	64	49	10
1898....	2434	64	45	10	2005	68	42	5	2409	65	33	1
1899....	2416	59	44	4	1996	48	29	4	2400	65	46	7
1900....	2398	57	43	12	1987	45	35	4	2390	55	35	4
1901....	2380	50	32	2	1978	44	39	4	2380	74	31	3
1902....	2360	70	46	9	1970	48	26	4	2370	65	31	4
1903....	2344	53	38	0	1960	14	31	3	2360	84	35	7
1904....	2328	55	49	1	1950	15	35	8	2350	74	40	6
Averages for Years 1895 to 1904	2408	*25.3	*17.8	†114	1992	*24.5	*17.0	†102	2394	*27.9	*15.9	†74
1905	2312	*23.7	*18.1	†54	1940	*24.7	*14.4	†41	2340	*26.4	*14.9	†49

NOTES.—

- (1) The separate localities adopted for this Table are the registration sub-districts.
- (2) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are included in sub-columns *c* of this Table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded.
- (3) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.
- (4) The gross totals of the several columns in this Table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV.: thus, the totals of sub-columns *a*, *b* and *c* agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3 and 12 respectively of Table I.: the gross total of the sub-column *c* agrees with the total of column 2 in Table IV. and the gross total of sub-column *d* with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

* Rate per 1000 persons living.

† Rate per 1000 births, or infantile mortality rate.

TABLE III. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.)
DORE RURAL DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICTS.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH REGISTRATION SUB-DIVISION.				No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from each Registration Sub-district.		
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.						1	2	3	1	2	3
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards						
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	4	0	1	3	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0
Membranous Group ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	18	0	0	0	4	14	0	3	8	7	0	0	0
Scarlet fever	9	0	2	5	2	0	0	1	3	5	0	0	0
Typhus fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric fever	3	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Relapsing fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Continued fever	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	37	0	3	12	6	16	0	8	13	16	0	0	0

The localities adopted for this Table are the same as those in Tables II. and IV.

H.—The Iron Isolation Hospital is situated in the Kentchurch Registration Sub-district.

TABLE IV. (EXTENDED).- LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.
DORE RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1905.
Corrected for Residents and Non-residents.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.								DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO SUB-DISTRICT. (AT ALL AGES).			TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.
	All ages.	Under 1 year		1 and 5 years		5 and 15 years		15 and 25 years		25 and 65 years		
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		12
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Croup.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Typhus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fever / Enteric	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Other continued	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic Influenza	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diarrhoea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteritis	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0
Puerperal fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other septic diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phthisis	8	0	0	0	2	6	0	2	2	4	0	0
Other tubercular diseases	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Cancer, malignant disease	9	0	0	0	0	3	6	7	1	1	0
Bronchitis	8	0	0	0	0	2	6	5	2	1	1
Pneumonia	10	1	1	0	0	6	2	3	3	2	0
Pleurisy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Alcoholism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cirrhosis of liver }	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Rickets	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Premature birth	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Appendicitis	14	0	0	0	0	5	9	5	6	3	0
Heart diseases	4	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	3	0
Heart disease (valvular)	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Accidents	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
Convulsions	6	0	0	0	0	2	4	2	2	2	0
Apoplexy	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Nephritis	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Intussusception	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Periostitis	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Debility	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Old age	14	0	0	0	0	0	14	5	5	4	3
Syphilis	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Syncope	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Spinal softening	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Cerebritis	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Multiple neuritis	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Natural causes	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Suicide	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
All other causes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All causes	105	8	5	6	3	37	46	42	28	35	6

TABLE V. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).

DORE RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING YEAR, 1905.

*Corrected for Residents and Non-Residents.*Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under
One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES.																	
Certified	3	1	1	..	5	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Uncertified
Small-pox
Chicken-pox
Measles
Scarlet Fever
Diphtheria : Croup
Whooping Cough
Diarrhoea, all forms
Enteritis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh
Premature Birth	3	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Congenital Defects
Injury at Birth
Want of Breast-milk
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tuberculous Meningitis
Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tubes Mesenterica
Other Tuberculous Diseases
Erysipelas
Syphilis
Rickets	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)
Convulsions	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bronchitis
Laryngitis
Pneumonia	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Suffocation, overlaying
	5	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8

None of above deaths were of illegitimate children.

Rural District of DORE :—Population (estimated to middle of 1905), 6592.

Births in the year :—Legitimate, 155 ; illegitimate, 10.

Deaths from all causes at all ages (corrected for Residents and Non-residents) 105.

DORE RURAL DISTRICT.

WORKSHOPS.

From information furnished by the Sanitary Inspectors I have made a Register of the Workshops situated within the Dore Rural District.

Attention has been paid during 1905 to the linewashing of Blacksmiths' shops.

The following is a summary of the Register of Workshops.

PARISH.	Blacksmith	Builder	Cornmill	Dressmaker	Harnessmaker	Engineering	Shoemaker	Tailor	Wheelwright	TOTAL
Abbeydore.....	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	4
Bacton.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Craswall.....	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Ewyas Harold.....	1	1	0	2	1	0	2	1	1	9
Kenderchurch.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Kentchurch.....	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Kilpeck.....	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
Kingstone.....	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	4
Llanveynoe.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Longtown.....	2	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	8
Madley.....	3	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	3	11
Michaelchurch.....	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Newton.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3
Orcop.....	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	6
Peterchurch.....	2	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	2	9
Rowlstone.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
St. Devereux.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
St. Margaret.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Tiberton.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Vowchurch.....	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	6
Walterstone.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Wormbridge.....	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	5
Total - - -	22	4	14	6	2	1	15	7	18	91

Number of Inspections of Workshops 16
 Defects found 0

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

	1891.	1901.	1905.
Area in Acres (exclusive of water)	-- ..	65,147 ..	65,147
Population (Census)	13,853 ..	13,271 ..	
Population (Midsummer)	— ..	13,257 ..	13,027
Inhabited houses	2,892 ..	2,877 ..	—
Persons per house	4.8 ..	4.6 ..	—
Rateable Value 25th March ..	£126,890 ..	£125,283 ..	£130,183
A penny rate produces	— ..	— ..	£416
Number of parishes	— ..	39 ..	39
Death-rate all causes per 1,000..	21.6 ..	14.3 ..	15.6
Corrected for sex and age	19.2 ..	12.7 ..	13.8
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	— ..	22.2 ..	20.1

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER.

The Rural District of Hereford is situated in the middle of the county, and completely surrounds the city of Hereford. It is bounded on the north by the Leominster Rural District, on the north-east by the Bromyard Rural District, on the south by the Ross Rural District, and on the west by the Dore and Weobley Rural Districts. The middle of the district is low-lying. In the north Dinnore hill rises to a height of 943ft., in the south Orcop hill to 958ft., and Aconbury hill 905ft., on the west Credenhill is 720ft., while on the eastern side are Dinedor 595ft., Backbury 738ft., and Westhide 422ft.

The district is well watered. The river Wye flows across from east to west in a very tortuous bed, and the rivers Lugg and Frome flow from north to south until they empty into the Wye. In the low-lying portions, following the courses of the rivers is alluvial deposit.

Geologically the district is Old Red Sandstone. Credenhill, Dinedor, Dinmore, and Callow hills are of Cornstone formation.

The subsoil is gravelly loam in those parishes through which the rivers flow, and in the remainder of the district for the most part marl or clay.

All the 39 parishes are in the Hereford Registration District, in the county of Hereford, and in the Hereford Poor-law Union, but the Rural District is not co-terminous with the Registration District, which includes also the parishes of the city of Hereford and the parishes of the Dore Poor Law Union; or with the Poor-law Union, which includes the parishes of the city of Hereford.

The population at the Census of 1901 in the 39 parishes within the district varied from 27 in Dinmore to 1,303 in Burghill, but if the 378 Asylum residents are deducted the Burghill population (925) is still the largest in the district. There are collections of houses into villages at Bullingham, Fownhope, Holmer, Little Dewchurch, Lugwardine, Marden, Mordiford, Wellington, and Withington.

There are 70 miles of county main roads and 210 miles of district roads in the Hereford Rural District.

INDUSTRIES.

The industries are almost entirely of an agricultural nature, hops and fruit are largely grown, and there is extensive breeding of Herefordshire cattle. A large encaustic tile works is situated in Withington parish, and there are chemical works in Credenhill parish. The wooden soles of Yorkshire and Lancashire clogs are made in the Holme Lacy parish. There are flour mills in the parishes of Clehonger, Credenhill, Eaton Bishop, Fownhope, Lugwardine, and Wellington. There are large cider works at Withington.

POPULATION.

The population of the Rural Sanitary District at the Census of 1901 was 13,271. During the ten years 1891-1901 there was an average yearly decrease in the population of 58 persons, and assuming that this decrease is still going on, the estimated population at the middle of 1905 was 13,027, the number upon which the figures in this report is based.

Although there was a decrease in population between 1891-1901 over the whole district of 582 persons, a reference to the Census returns on p. 90 will show that in 12 parishes there was an aggregate increase of 217 persons.

BIRTHS.

No. 263. Rate per 1,000, 20.1.

There were 263 births registered in the Hereford Rural District during 1905, of which 139 were boys and 124 girls, equal to a birth-rate per 1,000 of 20.1. This rate is 1.5 per 1,000 below that recorded in 1904, and is 2.6 per 1,000 below the average rate of the previous ten years. The birth-rate in Rural England during 1905 was 26.3 per 1,000. A reference to p. 4 will show that the birth-rate in the Hereford Rural District is a little below that prevailing in England and Wales.

In the Registration Sub-districts the birth-rates were

						Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.	
						1905.	
Dewchurch	..	..	..	..	..	17.9	23.1
Fownhope	..	..	..	..	..	22.0	24.1
Burghill	..	..	..	..	..	20.4	21.4

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

During 1905 there were registered in the Hereford Rural District 10 illegitimate births, equal to 3.8 per cent. of the total births, or to 0.76 per 1,000 of the population living. In the Dewchurch Sub-district 2.7 per cent. of the births were illegitimate, in the Fownhope district 4.4 per cent., and in the Burghill district 3.9 per cent.

At the census of 1901 there were in the Hereford Rural District 1,769 unmarried women and widows between the ages of 15 and 45 years. The proportion of illegitimate births per 1,000 of these women was thus 5.6 compared with 6.7, 11.3, and 9.6 per 1,000 in 1904, 1903, and 1902, and with 11.0 per 1,000 in the six combined Rural Districts in 1905.

DEATHS.

No. 204. Rate per 1,000, 15.6.

The number of deaths registered in the Hereford Rural District during 1905 was 206, of which 114 were males and 92 females. Included in this number were 31 persons who died in the County Asylum at Burghill, but whose usual place of residence was not in the Hereford Rural District. There died in the Hereford Workhouse 11 persons, in the Herefordshire General Hospital 17 persons, and in the Hereford City Isolation Hospital one person, who were residents within the Hereford Rural District. After making the necessary adjustments, the number of deaths among residents in the Hereford Rural District was 204 (112 males and 92 females), equal to a death-rate per 1,000 of 15.6. This rate is the same as that recorded in 1904, and as the average death-rate of the previous 10 years. (See Table 1, p. 91)

Among the inhabitants of the following parishes, having a total population of 330 persons, no deaths occurred during 1905 :—
Dinmore, Pipe-cum-Lydc, Dormington, and Dewsall.

In the registration sub-districts the death-rates were

	1905.	Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
--	-------	---------------------------------------

Dewchurch	16.4	15.0
Fownhope	14.8	17.2
Burghill (excluding Asylum)	15.6	14.4
Hereford Rural District	15.6	15.6

I do not think any good purpose would be served by recording the death-rate for each parish during a single year, figures covering so short a period and for small populations would only be misleading.

In the following 13 parishes, each of which has a population of more than 400 persons, the death-rates per 1,000 were as follows. :—

	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
Allensmore	15.0	12.7	17.0	21.3	15.1
Breinton	12.0	14.4	19.3	14.5	14.6
Bullingham	7.0	11.4	13.3	9.3	5.4
Burghill (excluding Asylum)	15.0	20.6	19.6	18.6	21.0
Cleghonger	14.4	16.9	9.7	22.5	15.0
Fownhope	21.6	5.1	8.9	21.7	11.6
Holmer	10.9	5.3	8.8	15.8	19.1
Lugwardine	14.1	15.5	18.4	11.4	7.1
Marden	20.7	17.0	24.2	15.7	15.6
Mordiford	22.5	20.5	13.7	16.0	20.8
Much Dewchurch	8.5	5.5	1.8	14.9	18.8
Wellington	13.0	21.1	16.2	17.8	17.8
Withington	23.7	9.2	14.4	18.3	16.9

The death-rate in Rural England during 1905 was 14.9 per 1,000.

CORRECTED DEATH-RATE.—The death-rate from all causes in this country is lower at ages between 5 years and 55 years than it is at other periods, and it is lower among females than among males, and as the proportion of persons living at different age periods and the proportion of males to females varies in different localities it is obviously necessary to make certain corrections if we are to compare with accuracy the death-rates in two or more districts. In order to make a true comparison with the rest of the country, I have worked out the factor of correction for Hereford Rural District, and the death-rate thus corrected was 13.8 per 1,000 in 1905, compared with 15.2 per 1,000 in England and Wales. The corrected average death-rate in Hereford Rural District in the previous ten years was 13.8 per 1,000.

The following table gives the ages at death during 1905 in various groups for the Hereford Rural District, the Registration Sub-Districts, and the thirteen largest parishes.

TABLE A.

	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 to 85	Over 85
Hereford R. Dist.	204	23	10	13	11	22	36	38	41	10
SUB-DISTRICTS :										
Dewchurch ..	67	2	11	6	5	4	13	17	16	3
Fownhope	60	8	3	3	2	9	9	15	8	3
Burghill	77	13	6	4	4	9	14	6	17	4
PARISHES :										
Allensmore ..	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	1
Breinton	6	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Bullingham ..	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0
Burghill	18	5	2	2	0	1	3	1	4	0
Clechonger ..	6	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	0
Fownhope ..	9	2	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0
Holmer	11	5	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	1
Lugwardine ..	5	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	0
Marden	13	1	3	0	1	4	0	1	3	0
Mordiford	9	0	1	1	0	1	2	4	0	0
Much Dewchurch	10	0	0	1	1	1	4	2	1	0
Wellington ..	11	1	0	0	1	2	4	2	1	0
Withington ..	13	0	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	3

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

3.2 per cent. of the total deaths.

Of the 206 deaths registered in the Hereford Rural District in 1905 there were 182 certified by registered medical practitioners, 13 by the Coroner, and 11 were uncertified. Given as percentages of the total deaths 88.3 per cent. were certified by medical practitioners, 6.3 per cent. by the Coroner, and 5.4 per cent. were uncertified. Five deaths were uncertified in the Dewchurch Registration Sub-district, one in the Fownhope and five in the Burghill Sub-districts.

The cause of death entered by the Registrars in the case of the uncertified deaths was—Chronic Bronchitis, Convulsions, Senile decay, Heart disease (2), Premature birth, Probably Apoplexy, Heart failure. (4)

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

					Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
					1905.
Hereford Rural District	..	..	..	..	87
Rural England	..	..	..	..	113

The amount of child mortality is measured by stating the number of children who have died under one year old within a certain period in proportion to 1,000 births during the same period. In the Hereford Rural District during 1905 there were born 263 children, and 23 children died under twelve months old. The infantile mortality rate was thus equal to 87 per 1,000 births. The number is below the average (108) for the previous ten years.

In the Registration Sub-districts the infantile mortality rate was

					1905.	Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
Dewchurch	..	..	..	..	27	112
Fownhope	..	..	..	..	90	101
Burghill	..	..	..	..	128	111

The 23 children under 12 months old who died in the Hereford Rural District during 1905 were certified as having died from the following causes :—Whooping Cough (2), Bronchitis, Pneumonia (7), Premature Birth (4), Diarrhoea, Marasmus (4), Congenital heart disease, Convulsions, and Syncope (2).

ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS.—There were three deaths in the Hereford Rural District during 1905 among illegitimate children under 12 months old, giving an infantile mortality rate of 300 per 1,000 illegitimate births, compared with 79 per 1,000 in the case of legitimate births and deaths.

ZYMOTIC (INFECTIOUS) DISEASES.

	1905.	Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
Death-rate per 1,000	0.80 ..	0.60
„ „ Rural England	1.09 ..	—

The seven diseases named below are those which are included in the expression “principal zymotic diseases.”

	No. of cases.	No. of deaths.
Small-pox	0 ..	0
Measles	* ..	0
Scarlet Fever	52 ..	1
Whooping Cough	* ..	2
Diphtheria	38 ..	7
Typhoid Fever	2 ..	0
Diarrhœa	* ..	1

* Not notifiable.

SMALL-POX.—No cases of small-pox occurred in the Hereford Rural District in 1903, 1904, or 1905.

SCARLET FEVER.—There were no deaths from scarlet fever in the Rural District, but one patient died in the Hereford City Isolation Hospital whose usual place of residence was in the Rural District. Only five cases were reported to me in the first half of the year from three houses in three different parishes remote from each other. At the end of August there was a slight epidemic in the adjoining parishes of Sutton and Shelwick. It lasted until the end of October, 35 patients being attacked in 17 houses. One patient was removed in the early part of the outbreak to the Isolation Hospital. The epidemic was no doubt kept alive by several unrecognised cases which I discovered in September among some children working in a hop-field. The outbreak had quite subsided by the end of the year. In November and December isolated cases were reported from Eaton Bishop and Clechonger.

DIPHTHERIA.—The 38 cases of diphtheria reported during the year occurred in 26 houses in 11 different parishes. The seven deaths were in the parishes of Burghill, Eaton Bishop (2), Withington, Much Birch (2), and Mordiford. In August I heard from the Medical Officer of Health for Merthyr Tydvil that a child suffering from diphtheria had returned to its home at Bartestree. Upon visiting the address given I took what steps I could to prevent a spread of the disease, and although three households in the neighbouring parish of Lugwardine became subsequently affected, I do not think they could be attributed to the Merthyr case. In October there was a short outbreak in the parish of Much Birch, involving nine houses and 12 patients. The schools were closed before I had any intimation of the outbreak, so that I was not able to ascertain whether there were any infected children among the scholars.

TYPHOID FEVER.—Both cases of typhoid fever reported during the year were among occupants of the Asylum at Burghill.

PHTHISIS.				Average of	
				10 years,	
				1895—1904.	
				1905.	
Death-rate per 1,000	..	..	..	0.94	.. 0.80
The 12 deaths from consumption—three males and nine females—occurred among residents in the following parishes :—					
Allensmore, Bartestree (2), Holmer, Mordiford (2), Marden (2),					
Much Dewchurch (2), Stoke Edith and Lugwardine. The ages at					
death varied from 16 years to 65 years.					

CANCER.				Average of	
				10 years,	
				1895—1904.	
				1905.	
Death-rate per 1,000	..	..	..	0.22	.. 0.74

The three deaths from cancer—all males— occurred among patients from the following parishes :—Bartestree, Clehonger, and Credenhill. Their ages were 67, 63, and 75 years.

TABLE B.
HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.
ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.

Name of Disease.	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	Total 1895 to 1904	1905
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	2	1	0	0	0	1	4	1	2	0	11	0
Scarlet Fever	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	10	1
Whooping Cough ..	0	4	3	0	1	1	5	0	3	2	19	2
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup..	1	2	5	0	1	0	0	2	2	5	18	7
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Influenza	14	0	10	14	15	15	0	5	0	2	75	2
Diarrhoea	0	4	2	4	1	0	5	1	2	3	22	1
Puerperal Fever.. ..	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Erysipelas	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	6	0
Phthisis	11	12	8	7	12	15	14	8	11	16	117	12
Cancer.. .. .	9	7	3	11	10	11	15	8	12	15	101	3
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy, &c.	46	49	35	26	31	43	23	22	30	38	343	37
Heart Diseases	30	24	31	25	24	28	21	28	42	25	278	37
Accidents	6	8	8	9	13	12	8	2	1	5	69	8

TABLE C.
HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.
ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.

Year.	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Typhus Fever	Typhoid Fever	Diarrhoea & Dysentery	TOTAL
1875.....	0	1	7	3	1	0	6	8	26
1876.....	0	6	45	12	0	0	3	13	79
1877.....	0	1	11	0	3	0	2	2	19
1878.....	0	3	1	0	1	0	2	7	14
1879.....	0	0	2	7	4	0	1	3	17
1880.....	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	10	18
1881.....	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	6
1882.....	0	19	18	6	3	0	1	1	48
1883.....	0	5	13	0	2	0	1	8	29
1884.....	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	11	15
1885.....	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	4	8
1886.....	0	0	0	9	0	0	1	6	16
1887.....	0	0	0	2	7	0	0	3	12
1888.....	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	6
1889.....	0	6	0	1	3	0	1	1	12
1890.....	0	0	0	7	2	0	2	4	15
1891.....	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
1892.....	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	2	7
1893.....	0	2	5	4	4	0	0	2	17
1894.....	0	0	1	2	3	0	0	0	6
1895.....	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	5
1896.....	0	1	2	4	2	0	0	4	13
1897.....	0	0	0	3	5	0	0	2	10
1898.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	4	6
1899.....	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	3
1900.....	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
1901.....	0	4	0	5	0	0	0	5	14
1902.....	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	5
1903.....	0	2	1	3	2	0	0	2	10
1904.....	0	0	2	2	5	6	0	3	12
1905.....	0	0	1	2	7	0	0	1	11

WATER SUPPLY.

On December 13th, 1879, a resolution was passed by the Hereford Rural Sanitary Authority defining "a reasonable distance" as 500 yards in the case of existing and 200 yards in the case of newly-built houses within which water should be provided.

There are combined systems of water supply in the parish of Fownhope where water is piped from the Highland well to several houses, and in the parish of Stoke Edith where about 30 houses are supplied with water conveyed in pipes from a spring in the Vicarage grounds. Elsewhere deep or shallow wells provided with pumps or windlasses, and springs are most generally in use. In a large number of instances water has to be carried from neighbouring houses, or from roadside and field springs.

DRAINAGE AND EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

At Fownhope there is a drain in the main road receiving the drainage from 18 houses and the schools. In no other part of the Rural District is there any combined drainage. The slopwater from many houses is discharged into roadside ditches.

Large residential houses are provided with water closets, the drainage discharges into cesspools or on to land, occasionally into watercourses. The farm houses and cottages usually have privy closets. In only a few instances are there pail or earth closets. (See p. 13).

HOUSING.

The average number of persons per house at the last Census was 4.6.

The general remarks upon p. 17 as to the condition of the houses and of the defects usually found apply to the Hereford Rural District.

It is gratifying to be able to report the erection of well-built brick cottages, more especially in those parishes which adjoin the City of Hereford.

PERMISSIVE POWERS.

The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, and the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, were adopted by the District Council in June, 1891, but the Council does not possess any of the urban powers of the Public Health Act, 1875.

The Council has not made any By-laws with respect to
Private scavenging.
Houses let in lodgings.
Hop and fruit pickers.
Tents and vans.
Mortuaries and Cemeteries.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Isolation Hospital was formally opened on September 21st, 1904, by the Chairman of the Council, W. H. Davies, Esq., J.P.

A description of the Hospital will be found on p. 95 *et seq.* of my Report for 1904.

The Hospital was occupied on two separate occasions during the year for six weeks each time. Three patients were in for one period, and one during the other. The total cost amounted to £30 9s. 10d.

An asphalt floor has been laid down over the concrete in the pavilion.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885, were made during the year. They have been printed and circulated, and are identical with those made by the Dore Council, which are set out on p. 25. Public notice was given during the year of the necessity for registration.

The number of Dairies and Cowsheds on the register at the end of the year was 24.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are three slaughter-houses in the district, situated in the parishes of Credenhill, Fownhope, and Lugwardine. The Credenhill slaughter-house is very well constructed, and is kept in a good condition.

There are no by-laws in force with regard to slaughter-houses.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There are no common lodging-houses in the Hereford Rural District. No by-laws have been made with respect to these houses by the Council.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Mr. F. Fowles was appointed Inspector of Nuisanees in the year 1875, and receives a salary of £100 per annum, one-half of which is paid by the County Council. He pays out of his salary all incidental and travelling expenses (including the cost of a horse), except stamps, stationery, and his carriage license. He does not hold any other appointment, and he is not subject to re-election at stated periods.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

I beg to submit statement of work carried out by me during the year ending December 31st, 1905. I have visited, investigated and reported to the Medical Officer of Health 94 cases of infectious disease, disinfected 54 houses and 54 lots of bedding, clothing, &c., I have inspected the Dairies and Cowsheds and found them kept in a good state of cleanliness. I have also ordered and served notices for the abatement and removal of 418 nuisances as under :—

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Cases inquired into	.. .. .	94
Patients removed to hospital	.. .. .	4
Houses disinfected and cleansed	.. .. .	54
Lots of bedding, clothing, &c., disinfected	.. .. .	54
Cases of illegal exposure	.. .. .	0
Schools disinfected	.. .. .	3
Infected Houses not ready to disinfect	.. .. .	2

HOUSES.

Erected	.. .. .	8
Made fit for habitation	.. .. .	8
Closed as unfit for habitation	.. .. .	1
Cleansed and whitewashed	.. .. .	6
Overcrowding abated	.. .. .	1
New eaves gutters provided	.. .. .	1

WATER SUPPLY.

Wells sunk	.. .. .	2
Wells cleansed and repaired	.. .. .	3
Wells closed	.. .. .	0
Samples of water sent for analysis	.. .. .	9

HOUSE DRAINS.

Laid or relaid	4
Cleansed, trapped, and ventilated	6
Defective waste-pipes rectified	0
Insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified	1
Dumb wells rectified	0

WATER CLOSETS.

Additional provided	3
Repaired, ventilated, or provided with cisterns	1

PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

New privies provided	3
Converted to pail closets	2
Repaired	2

SCAVENGING.

Privies and ashpits cleansed	171
Removals of offensive refuse	128

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

On register	3
Inspected	3
Cleansed and repaired	3

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

On register	24
Contraventions of D.C. and M. Order	0

WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	30
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UN SOUND FOOD.

Seizures	0
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FREDERICK FOWLES,

Inspector of Nuisances,

Kingsthorpe, Hereford.

February 17th, 1906.

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT. CENSUS RETURNS.

Sub-districts and Parishes.	Area in Acres.	Inhabited Houses.		Population.		Persons per house.	
		1891	1901	1891	1901	1891	1901
DEWCHURCH	27133	960	935	4526	4202	4.7	4.4
Aconbury	1692	28	31	124	117	4.4	3.7
Allensmor	2024	130	118	520	480	4.0	4.0
Bolstone	674	11	12	51	40	4.6	3.3
Callow	631	20	22	91	78	4.5	3.5
Clehonger	2152	105	102	430	415	4.0	4.0
Dewsall	693	9	9	54	47	6.0	5.2
Dinedor	1664	53	50	270	225	5.0	4.5
Eaton Bishop	1660	83	74	360	286	4.3	3.7
Grafton	1042	29	31	126	139	4.3	4.4
Haywood	1565	31	30	141	144	4.5	4.8
Holme Lacy	3261	64	65	301	305	4.8	4.6
Little Birch	1019	60	55	248	225	4.1	4.0
Little Dewchurch	1726	60	56	286	237	4.7	4.2
Lower Bullingham†	1106	52	56	469	520	9.0	9.5
Much Birch	1303	109	102	470	396	4.3	3.8
Much Dewchurch	4921	116	122	585	548	5.0	4.4
FOWNHOPE	16885	936	920	4224	4090	4.5	4.4
Bartestree†	421	18	18	245	265	14.0	14.6
Dormington	977	21	22	96	95	4.5	4.3
Fownhope	3524	189	189	829	787	4.8	4.1
Hampton Bishop	2072	65	69	340	343	5.2	5.0
Lugwardine	2116	167	174	735	709	4.4	4.0
Mordiford	1515	129	112	482	443	3.7	3.9
Preston Wynne	874	30	32	118	144	3.9	4.5
Stoke Edith	1014	41	36	171	140	4.1	3.8
Westhide	1246	37	34	150	148	4.0	4.6
Weston Beggard	925	69	59	314	259	4.5	4.4
Withington	2201	170	175	744	757	4.3	4.3
BURGHILL*	21650	996	1022	4673	4547	5.6	4.4
Breinton	1647	89	88	436	417	4.9	4.7
Burghill*	3765	195	193	911	871	4.6	4.9
Credenhill	1258	51	54	253	223	5.0	4.1
Dinmore	580	5	3	35	27	7.0	9.0
Holmer	1371	102	112	482	549	4.7	4.9
Kenchester	545	24	25	123	121	5.1	4.0
Marden	3995	173	187	784	818	4.5	4.3
Moreton-on-Lugg	896	15	18	76	77	5.0	4.7
Pipe and Lyde	1640	49	45	231	188	4.7	4.1
Stretton Sugwas	1389	76	77	350	311	4.6	4.3
Sutton	1504	73	73	279	330	5.4	4.5
Wellington	3060	144	147	613	615	4.2	4.1
RURAL DISTRICT	65668	2892	2877	13853	13271	4.7	4.6

* The population of the Asylum (430 in 1891 and 432 in 1901) is not included.

† There are large Roman Catholic Institutions in the parishes of Lower Bullingham and Bartestree.

TABLE I. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1905.
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the district.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 year of age		At all ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895..	13605	343	25·3	24	69	222	16·3	17	16	20	226	17·7
1896..	13547	326	24·0	28	86	211	15·5	23	20	15	206	15·2
1897..	13489	318	23·5	46	144	219	16·2	22	18	23	224	16·6
1898..	13431	311	23·1	49	157	218	16·2	28	28	16	206	15·3
1899..	13373	300	22·4	33	110	241	18·0	34	32	28	237	17·7
1900..	13315	271	20·3	32	118	225	16·8	32	30	13	208	15·6
1901..	13257	295	22·2	33	119	204	15·3	36	36	22	190	14·3
1902..	13200	307	23·2	30	97	193	14·6	38	33	13	173	13·1
1903..	13141	286	21·7	22	76	200	15·2	33	28	24	196	14·9
1904..	13084	283	21·6	30	106	225	17·1	41	38	18	205	15·6
Averages for years 1895-1904	13344	304	22·7	33	108	216	16·1	30	28	19	207	15·6
1905	13027	263	20·1	23	87	206	15·8	33	31	29	204	15·6

* Rates in Columns 4, 8 and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

†The "Public Institutions" taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are the County Asylum within the district (Cols. 9 and 10), and the Workhouse and Herefordshire General Hospital beyond the district (Col. 11).

The Union Workhouse is not within the Hereford Rural District.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).	65,147	Total population of all ages.....	13,271	At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses.....		2,877		
Average number of persons per house		4·6		

TABLE II. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.)

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICTS IN 1905
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.*Corrected for Residents and Non-residents.*

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	DEWCHURCH DISTRICT.				FOWNHOPE DISTRICT.				BURGHILL DISTRICT.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
1895.....	4386	91	74	11	4164	120	77	5	5055	132	69	8
1896.....	4354	104	67	6	4151	111	70	7	5042	111	68	15
1897.....	4322	107	61	15	4138	89	78	17	5029	122	85	14
1898.....	4290	104	82	23	4125	99	70	11	5016	108	53	15
1899.....	4258	100	68	6	4112	97	74	14	5003	103	95	13
1900.....	4226	83	55	9	4099	85	80	12	4990	103	73	11
1901.....	4194	108	55	13	4086	89	76	11	4977	98	59	8
1902.....	4162	102	54	8	4073	101	47	8	4965	104	72	14
1903.....	4130	101	51	4	4060	92	66	10	4951	93	79	8
1904.....	4098	83	69	10	4047	103	69	6	4939	97	67	14
Averages of Years 1895 to 1904	4242	98 *23.1	64 *15.0	11 †11.2	4106	99 *24.1	71 *17.2	10 †10.1	4997	107 *21.4	72 *14.4	12 †11.1
1905	4066	73 *17.9	67 *16.4	2 †2.7	4034	89 *22.0	60 *14.8	8 †9.0	4927	101 *20.4	77 *15.6	13 †12.8

NOTES.—

- (1) The separate localities adopted for this table are the registration sub-districts.
- (2) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are included in sub-columns *c* of this Table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded.
- (3) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.
- (4) The gross totals of the several columns in this Table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV.; thus, the totals of sub-columns *a*, *b* and *c* agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3, and 12 respectively of Table I.; the gross total of the sub-column *c* agrees with the total of column 2 in Table IV., and the gross total of sub-columns *d* with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

* Rate per 1,000 persons living

† Rate per 1,000 births, or infantile mortality rate.

TABLE III. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).
HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.					TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICT.			No. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICT.		
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.				1	2	3	1	2	3
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25						
					25 to 65						
					65 and upwards						
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	38	0	4	23	2	17	14	7	0	0	0
Membranous Croup ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	10	1	1	1	3	0	0	10	0	0	0
Scarlet fever. . .	52	2	6	40	3	8	3	41	0	3	1
Typhus fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric fever	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
Relapsing fever ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Continued fever ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal fever ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	102	3	11	64	10	25	17	60	0	3	1

The Localities adopted for this Table are the same as those in Tables II. and IV.

H.—The Hereford Rural Isolation Hospital is situated in the Burghill Registration sub-district. It was opened for the reception of patients on 21st September, 1904.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alcoholism..... }	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cirrhosis of liver }	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jaundice	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Premature birth	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0
Diseases and accidents of par- turtion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heart disease	25	0	0	0	1	11	13	11	8	6	1
Heart disease (valvular)	12	1	0	0	0	4	7	3	3	6	1
Accidents	8	0	1	3	1	2	1	4	1	3	0
Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Colitis.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Apoplexy	21	0	0	0	0	12	9	7	6	8	3
Periculous anaemia.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Epilepsy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
General debility	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Gastritis	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
Cerebral meningitis	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Nephritis.....	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	0	0
Cystitis	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Peritonitis	3	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	0
Intestinal obstruction	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1
Marasmus	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0
Convulsions	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
Arterial degeneration	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diabetes	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Gastric Ulcer	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
Exophthalmic goitre.....	3	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	2	0	0
Old age	26	0	0	0	0	0	26	8	3	15	3
Psoas abscess.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Heart failure	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
Cerebral softening.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Syncope	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
General paralysis of the insane	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	4
Natural causes	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Uraemia.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Sclerosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
All other causes.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All causes.....	204	23	10	13	11	58	89	67	60	77	33

TABLE V. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).
HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING YEAR, 1905.

Corrected for Residents and Non-Residents.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under
One year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year
ALL CAUSES.																	
Certified	6	1	1	1	9	2	2	..	1	3	1	1	2	..	..	..	21
Uncertified	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Small-pox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria : Croup .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Diarrhoea, all forms .. .. .	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Enteritis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth	*3	1	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Congenital Defects .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Injury at Birth .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Want of Breast-milk .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	*2	..	1	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Tuberculous Meningitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions .. .. .	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Laryngitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	7
Suffocation, overlaying .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syncope	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
	7	1	2	1	11	2	2	0	1	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	23

* One of each of illegitimate children.

Rural District of HEREFORD :—Population (estimated to middle of 1905) 13027.

Births in the year :—Legitimate, 253 ; illegitimate, 10.

Deaths from all causes at all ages (corrected for Residents and Non-residents) 204

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

From information furnished by the Sanitary Inspector, I have revised the Register of the Workshops situated within the Hereford Rural District.

Attention has been paid during 1905 to the lime washing of Blacksmiths' shops.

The following is a summary of the Register of Workshops :—

PARISHES.	Blacksmith	Builder	Carpenter	Dressmaker	Machinist	Sawmills	Wheelwright	TOTAL
Allensmore	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	4
Breinton	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Bullingham	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Burghill	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	5
Cleghonger	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Credenhill	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Dinedor	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Eaton Bishop	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Fownhope	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Hampton Bishop ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Haywood	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Holme Lacy	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Holmer	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Little Birch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Dewchurch ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Lugwardine	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Marden	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	5
Mordiford	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Much Birch	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Much Dewchurch ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Pipe and Lyde	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Preston Wynne	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Stoke Edith	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Stretton Sugwas ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sutton	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	3
Wellington	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
Westhide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weston Beggard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Withington	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total - - -	31	3	2	0	3	0	15	54

Number of Inspections of Workshops 50
 Defects found 0

LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

	1891.	1901.	1905
Area in Acres (exclusive of water)	— ..	49,758 ..	49,758
Population (Census)	8,688 ..	9,068 ..	—
Population (Midsummer)	— ..	9,079 ..	9,231
Inhabited houses (Census).. ..	1,927 ..	2,004 ..	—
Persons per house	4.5 ..	4.5 ..	—
Rateable value 25th March ..	— ..	£75,098 ..	£77,900
A penny rate produces	— ..	— ..	£324
No. of Parishes	— ..	22 ..	22
Death-rate all causes per 1,000..	19.3 ..	13.5 ..	11.6
Corrected for sex and age	19.1 ..	12.7 ..	10.9
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	— ..	23.9 ..	22.8

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER.

The Rural District of Ledbury, which entirely surrounds the Ledbury Urban District, is situated in the eastern portion of the county, and is bounded on the north by the Bromyard Rural District, on the east by Worcestershire, on the south by the Newent (Gloucestershire) and Ross Rural Districts, and on the west by the Hereford Rural District. There are many hills in the district. The Malvern Hills, which form the eastern boundary, rise to a height of 1,000ft. within the district, and Eastnor hill in the east is 600ft. above sea level. On the western side Woolhope is 530 ft., Westhide 563ft., Marcle hill 700ft., Seager hill 886ft., and Bradlow hill in the middle of the district is 770ft. above sea level. Colwall Church is 329ft., Bosbury 220ft., and Donnington 150ft. above sea level.

The river Frome flows in a westerly direction in the northern part of the district, and in the central part the river Leadon flows in a southerly direction.

Geologically the district is chiefly Old Red Sandstone, except the western boundary, where it is Silurian. Limestone crops up in Mathon parish.

The soil is a rich red clay. The sub soil is chiefly limestone (locally known as a bastard limestone).

In the 22 parishes within the district the population at the Census of 1901 varied from 79 in Aylton to 1,892 in Colwall. All these 22 parishes are in the Ledbury Poor-law Union, but the Rural District is not co-terminous either with the Registration District or with the Poor-law Union, which include the Ledbury Urban District and the parish of West Malvern in Worcestershire. There are collections of houses into villages at Bosbury, Colwall, Eastnor, Mathon, Tarrington, and Woolhope.

There are 49 miles of county main roads and 146 miles of district roads in the Ledbury Rural District.

INDUSTRIES.

The industries are almost entirely of an agricultural nature, hops and fruit being largely grown, and there is extensive breeding of Herefordshire cattle. There are large mineral water works and vinegar works in the parish of Colwall, and there are corn mills in Bosbury, Colwall, Eastnor, and Ledbury Rural. There are cider works in Ledbury Rural and Much Marcle. Large Limestone quarries are to be found in the parishes of Ledbury, Putley, Wellington Heath, Coddington, Colwall, Mathon, Castle Frome, Much Marcle, Woolhope and Yarkhill.

RECENT ALTERATIONS IN AREA.

The Ledbury Urban District was formed from the Ledbury Rural District on January 1st, 1895. It includes a portion of the Ledbury Rural parish. (L.G.B. Order, 19th October, 1894).

Mathon Urban parish was transferred on 1st January, 1895, from Ledbury Rural District to Malvern Link Urban District.

POPULATION.

The population of the Rural Sanitary District at the Census of 1891 was 12,615, and of the Rural District as it is now constituted the population was 8,688. The alterations in area indicated above account for the difference. The estimated population at the middle of 1905, and upon which the figures in this report are based, is 9,231. The estimates of the populations in the years 1895—1904, given in column 2 of Table I., on p. 115, have been carefully calculated.

BIRTHS.

No. 211. Birth-rate per 1,000, 22.8.

There were 211 births registered in the Ledbury Rural District during 1905, of which 95 were boys and 116 girls, equal to a birth-rate per 1,000 of 22.8. This rate is 1.00 per 1,000 above that recorded in 1904, and is 3.1 per 1,000 below the average rate of the previous ten years. The birth-rate in rural England during 1905 was 26.3 per 1000. Reference to p. 4 will show that the birth-rate in the Ledbury Rural District is really about equal to that of England and Wales.

In the Registration Sub-districts the birth-rate was

							Average of 10 years.	
							1905.	1895—1904.
Ledbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	20.8	.. 27.3
Yarkhill	..	..	..	..	..	..	25.4	.. 24.4

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

During 1905 there were registered in the Ledbury Rural District 13 illegitimate births, equal to 6.1 per cent. of the total births or to 1.4 per 1,000 of the population living. In the Ledbury Sub-district 4.5 per cent. of the births were illegitimate, and in the Yarkhill Sub-district 7.9 per cent.

At the Census of 1901 there were in the Ledbury Rural District 1,031 unmarried women and widows between the ages of 15 and 45 years. The proportion of illegitimate births per 1,000 of these women was thus 12.6, compared with 9.7, 11.6, and 9.5 per 1,000 in 1904, 1903 and 1902, and with 11.0 per 1,000 in the six combined Rural Districts in 1905. In the whole of England and Wales there were in 1904 (the latest year for which statistics are available) 8.4 illegitimate births to each 1,000 unmarried and widowed women between 15 and 45 years.

DEATHS.

No. 108. Rate per 1,000, 11.6.

The number of deaths registered in the Ledbury Rural District during 1905 was 95, of which 46 were males and 49 females. There died in the Ledbury Workhouse 11 persons, in the Ledbury Cottage Hospital one person, and in the County Asylum one person, residents within the Ledbury Rural District. After making the necessary adjustments, the number of deaths

among residents in the Ledbury Rural District was 108 (58 males and 50 females), equal to a death-rate per 1,000 of 11.6. This rate is 2.9 per 1,000 below that recorded in 1904, and is 3.3 per 1,000 below the average death-rate of the previous ten years. (See Table I., p. 115). The death-rate in Rural England in 1905 was 14.9 per 1,000.

Among the inhabitants of the Castle Frome parish, with a population of 122 persons, no deaths occurred during 1905.

In the Registration Sub-districts the death-rates were

	1905.	Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
Ledbury	12.7	14.2
Yarkhill	11.8	15.6
Ledbury Rural District	11.6	14.9

I do not think any good purpose would be served by recording the death-rate for each parish during a single year, figures covering so short a period and for small populations would only be misleading.

In the following eight parishes, each of which has a population of more than 400 persons, the death-rates per 1,000 were as follows:—

	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
Bosbury	16.0	13.8	19.7	23.2	23.3
Colwall	8.4	9.2	11.0	8.9	6.3
Eastnor	8.1	13.9	7.8	7.7	11.4
Ledbury Rural	22.9	8.5	7.2	9.9	13.0
Much Marcle	7.6	13.9	14.1	19.3	12.9
Tarrington	21.0	12.6	18.7	20.8	10.4
Woolhope	17.5	11.2	14.5	11.1	9.5
Yarkhill	15.5	27.2	17.9	20.4	18.1

CORRECTED DEATH-RATE.—The death-rate from all causes in this country is lower at ages between 5 years and 55 years than it is at other periods, and it is lower among females than among males. As the proportion of persons living at different age periods and the proportion of males to females varies in different localities it is obviously necessary to make some corrections if we are to compare with accuracy the death-rates in two or more districts. In order to make a true comparison with the rest of the country I have worked out the factor of correction for Ledbury Rural District, and the death-rate thus corrected was 10.9 per 1,000 in 1905 compared with 15.2 per 1,000 in England and Wales. The corrected average death-rate in Ledbury Rural District in the previous ten years was 14.0 per 1,000.

TABLE A.

The following Table gives the ages at death during 1905 in various groups for the Ledbury Rural District, the registration sub-districts, and the eight largest parishes.

	All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 to 85	Over 85
Ledbury R. Dist.	108	18	6	1	2	13	25	19	17	7
SUB-DISTRICTS :										
Ledbury	61	11	4	1	0	6	16	10	8	5
Yarkhill	47	7	2	0	2	7	9	9	9	2
PARISHES :										
Bosbury	20	6	0	1	0	3	4	3	2	1
Colwall	13	1	1	0	0	1	4	3	2	1
Eastnor	6	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0
Ledbury	11	2	2	0	0	1	2	3	0	1
Much Marcle ..	8	1	0	0	1	3	0	2	1	0
Tarrington ..	5	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0
Woolhope	6	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	0
Yarkhill	8	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	1

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

8.5 per cent. of the total deaths.

Of the 95 deaths registered in the Ledbury Rural District in 1905 there were 87 certified by registered medical practitioners, four by the Coroner, and four were uncertified. Given as percentages of the total deaths, 91.6 per cent. were certified by medical practitioners, 4.2 per cent. by the Coroner, and 4.2 per cent. were uncertified. One of the uncertified deaths was in the Ledbury Sub-district and three were in the Yarkhill Sub-district.

The cause of death entered by the Registrars in the case of the four uncertified deaths was—Collapse following indigestion, Premature birth, Heart failure, Hæmatemesis,

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Average of
10 years,

	1905	1895—1904.
Ledbury Rural District	85	102
Rural England	113	—

The amount of child mortality is measured by stating the number of children who have died under one year old within a certain period in proportion to 1,000 births during the same period. In the Ledbury Rural District during 1905 there were born 211 children, and 18 children died under 12 months old. The infantile mortality rate was thus equal to 85 per 1,000 births. This number is below the average (102) for the previous 10 years.

In the Registration Sub-districts the infantile mortality rate was

	1905.	Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
Ledbury	100	110
Yarkhill	69	92

The 18 children under 12 months old who died in the Ledbury Rural District during 1905 were registered as having died from the following diseases :—Whooping Cough, Premature Birth (3), Convulsions (2), Pneumonia, Marasmus (4), Influenza (2), Accident, Collapse, Hæmatemesis, Cerebro-spinal fever, Diarrhœa.

ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS.—There were no deaths in the Ledbury Rural District during 1904 or 1905 among illegitimate children under 12 months old.

ZYMOTIC (INFECTIOUS) DISEASES.

Average of
10 years,

	1905.	1895—1904.
Death-rate per 1,000	0.21	0.83
„ „ Rural England	1.09	—

The seven diseases named below are those which are included in the expression “ principal zymotic diseases.”

	No. of cases.	No. of deaths
Small-pox	0	0
Measles	*	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0
Whooping Cough	*	1
Diphtheria	9	0
Typhoid Fever	2	0
Diarrhœa	*	1

* Not notifiable.

SMALL-POX was not present in any part of the district during 1903, 1904, or 1905.

SCARLET FEVER.—No cases of scarlet fever occurred during 1905.

DIPHTHERIA.—The nine non-fatal cases of diphtheria notified during the year were in 8 houses in 7 different parishes. At no time was the disease epidemic.

TYPHOID FEVER.—There was one case of typhoid fever in Eastnor and one in Colwall. Both patients recovered.

PHTHISIS.				Average of	
				10 years,	
				1895—1904.	
				1905.	
Death-rate per 1,000	..	..	..	1.3	.. 0.98

The 12 deaths—seven males and five females—from consumption, were among residents in the parishes of Colwall (2), Wellington Heath, Bosbury (2), Much Marcle (2), Castle Frome, Little Marcle, Aylton (2), and Ledbury Rural. The ages at death were between 7 and 48 years.

CANCER.				Average of	
				seven years,	
				1898—1904.	
				1905.	
Death-rate per 1,000	..	..	..	0.45	.. 1.10

The four deaths—three males and one female—occurred among residents in the parishes of Colwall (2), Eastnor, and Ledbury Rural. The ages at death ranged from 46 years to 62 years.

TABLE B.
LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT.
ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.

Name of Disease.	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	Total 1895 to 1904	1905
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	4	0	9	0
Scarlet Fever	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	8	0
Whooping Cough	8	6	1	0	1	1	4	0	2	2	25	1
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ..	4	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	10	0
Typhoid Fever	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Influenza	6	0	7	15	11	24	3	3	3	2	74	8
Diarrhœa	3	5	1	3	1	1	3	1	1	2	21	1
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Erysipelas	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
Phthisis	15	15	9	8	3	8	5	8	9	9	89	12
Cancer	7	7	12	13	12	11	7	12	8	9	*98	4
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy, &c.	24	27	26	13	6	11	15	18	12	19	171	12
Heart Diseases	30	16	14	17	13	20	12	13	16	19	170	15
Accidents	12	10	4	3	6	8	5	3	2	3	56	3

TABLE C.
LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT.
ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.

Year.	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Typhus Fever	Typhoid Fever	Diarrhoea & Dysentery	Total
1875.....	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
1876.....	0	1	10	4	5	0	0	4	24
1877.....	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	8
1878.....	0	0	7	0	3	0	2	1	11
1879.....	0	3	0	3	5	0	0	0	11
1880.....	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	3
1881.....	0	0	1	1	8	0	0	2	12
1882.....	1	0	8	0	3	0	0	3	15
1883.....	0	0	3	10	0	0	0	4	18
1884.....	0	9	0	1	0	0	1	4	16
1885.....	0	9	0	1	0	0	2	4	15
1886.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	9
1887.....	0	0	1	1	2	0	2	4	9
1888.....	0	0	0	2	3	0	1	1	7
1889.....	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	2	8
1890.....	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	4	7
1891.....	0	8	4	0	9	0	0	1	22
1892.....	0	0	2	0	4	0	1	1	8
1893.....	0	1	3	5	1	0	2	5	17
1894.....	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	4	9
1895.....	0	0	4	8	4	0	2	3	21
1896.....	0	1	0	6	1	0	0	5	13
1897.....	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	5
1898.....	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	5
1899.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
1900.....	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	4
1901.....	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	3	8
1902.....	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
1903.....	0	4	1	2	1	0	0	1	9
1904.....	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	2	5
1905.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2

ISOLATION HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

There is no means of isolating any cases of infectious disease in the Ledbury Rural District. In 1901 I suggested to the Council that a sub-committee should be formed to decide as to whether any steps should be taken to provide isolation hospital accommodation. A Special Meeting of the Council was held to consider whether such a committee should be chosen, and I presented a Report on the question. The Council decided to take no action in the matter. Eight patients suffering from scarlet fever were sent to the Malvern Fever Hospital in 1901 at a cost to the Ledbury Rural District of £205, and four cases were sent in 1902 at a cost of £129 15s. In 1903 or 1904 no patients suffering from infectious diseases were isolated at the cost of the District Council.

WATER SUPPLY.

I have not been able to find a definite resolution of the Sanitary Authority relating to a "reasonable distance" within which there should be a water supply to houses, but there appears to be a tradition that it should be 500 yards in the case of old and 200 yards in the case of new houses.

There are combined supplies in the parishes of Colwall and Eastnor. The Colwall supply (Mr. Ballard's) is to about 70 houses in Mid-Colwall, from a spring on the hillside, whence the water is piped to a few houses. In the village of Eastnor practically every house is supplied with water, brought in pipes from a hillside spring. Elsewhere, deep and shallow wells and dip wells on the roadside or in fields are the available sources of supply. The wells are dry-steyned, and the lining is rarely carried above the level of the surrounding ground. It is possible, therefore, for pollution to take place.

DRAINAGE AND EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

There is combined drainage in the parishes of Colwall, Eastnor and Bosbury, and to a limited extent in Tarrington. Elsewhere, the drainage from residential houses discharges on to adjoining land or into watercourses. In a few instances filtration (contact) beds have been formed. Slop drains from cottages drain into roadside ditches. Farm houses and cottages are provided, as a rule with privy middens, though earth closets are being increasingly adopted. Very few pail closets are in use. (See p. 13).

COLWALL DRAINAGE.

A main sewer was laid in the year 1896 in Mid-Colwall (the Stone), and now serves about 56 houses ; it has an outfall upon about four acres of land in Mid-Colwall, called Hardwicke's Meadow, upon which the sewage is conducted. For the past four years this has been done under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. A man is employed by the Parochial Committee at a weekly wage of 4s. 6d., and he attends to the work daily. Previously it was done by the tenant of the land.

The Council decided, on January 28th, 1902, to apply to the L.G.B. for sanction to borrow the sum of £3,825 for the purpose of sewerage the Wych to the main sewer at the Stone, and for erecting septic tanks and contact beds in Hardwicke's Meadow and on January 13th, 1903, it was resolved to apply for sanction to borrow a further sum of £675 for the purpose of purchasing the necessary land.

An inquiry was held on March 5th and 9th, 1903, on behalf of the Local Government Board by Colonel Coke, with the result that the Board expressed the opinion that the Hardwicke Meadow site was not suitable for sewage outfall works, and suggested that a comprehensive scheme with an outfall in the neighbourhood of the Ox Pastures should be considered by the District Council. Upon receiving the Board's communication the Council resolved by 15 votes to 2 " that Colwall be allowed to go on dealing with the sanitary requirements of the parish as they arise, subject to the approval of the Rural District Council."

In the meantime some of the houses in the upper part of Colwall had been drained by means of a six-inch pipe sewer 176 yards long into a closed tank, the overflow from which passed over coke and small stones and then on to the adjoining land. During 1904 the owner of the land gave notice to the Council to remove this tank, and the sewer has now been continued about 60 yards to the Slade Acre field at a cost of £200.

The closed tank referred to above has been removed and a larger one has been constructed at the extremity of the sewer on Slade Acre. The overflow from the tank goes by upward filtration through sand, gravel and large stones, and then along 40 yards of stoneware pipes to an adjoining wood, where about three acres of land are available for irrigation. The same man who attends to the Hardwicke Meadow outfall looks after that at Slade Acre. He is paid 2s. 6d. weekly, and is expected to visit the outfall twice a week. There are 42 houses connected to the Slade Acre sewer.

HOUSING.

No houses were certified by me as unfit for human habitation under Sec. 30 of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.

The average number of persons per house at the last Census was 4.5, and of the 2,125 houses in the district, only 121, or about 6 per cent., were unoccupied.

Broadly speaking, the houses are well built, and in fairly good condition. Thatched roofs are giving place to tiles or slates. In every district there is a noticeable absence of rain water gutters, thus rendering houses permanently damp. Even upon what I should otherwise regard as model cottages I have found the gutters absent.

Some further remarks upon this subject will be found on p. 17

PERMISSIVE POWERS.

The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, was adopted on March 2nd, 1897, taking effect from June 6th, 1897. The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, has not been adopted.

URBAN POWERS.—The District Council possess Urban powers enabling them to make by-laws with respect to new buildings erected in the parish of Colwall.

The Colwall Parish Council has each year since 1896 been appointed a committee in accordance with Sec. 56 of the Local Government Act, 1894, for the purpose of carrying out the Public Health Act in the parish of Colwall.

BY-LAWS.—By-laws with respect to new buildings erected in the parish of Colwall were allowed by the L.G.B. on June 21st, 1898.

By-laws with respect to the removal of house refuse, and the cleansing of earth closets, privies, ashpits, and cesspools in the parish of Colwall were allowed by the L.G.B. on January 2nd, 1904 (see p. 114 of Annual Report for 1903).

There are no By-laws in force in the Ledbury Rural District with respect to

- Houses let in lodgings.
- Hop and fruit pickers.
- Tents and vans.
- Mortuaries and Cemeteries.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

A leaflet containing the provisions of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885, has been printed for distribution by the Ledbury Rural District Council. No regulations have been made under the Order, but the Council is considering the question. No public notice was given during 1905 of the necessity for registration. (See p. 23)

The number of Dairies and Milkshops on the register at the end of 1905 was 18, situated in the following parishes: Bosbury (2), Colwall (7), Ledbury Rural (2), Ashperton (2), Wellington Heath, Tarrington (2), and Mathon (2).

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are seven slaughter-houses in the district, situated in the parishes of Bosbury, Colwall (3), Tarrington, Putley, and Much Marcle. There are no By-laws in force with respect to slaughter-houses. They are all kept in a fairly good condition.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are public bakehouses in the parishes of Colwall (3), Bosbury, Pixley, Eastnor, Much Marcle, Munsley, Ashperton, Tarrington, Putley (2), and Castle Frome. They are all now kept tolerably clean.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There are no common lodging-houses in the Ledbury Rural District, and no By-laws have been made in respect of this class of house.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Mr. T. Cawsey, who holds the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, was appointed for one year in 1896, and was re-appointed for a term of three years from October 21st, 1905. He receives a salary of £100 per annum, one-half of which is repaid from the county funds. He pays his own travelling and incidental expenses, except stamps and stationery. He rides a bicycle. The only other office held by him is that of Building Inspector for the parish of Colwall.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1905.

In submitting my report for the past year, I beg to state that 18 complaints were received and investigated by me, and the necessary steps taken to remove the cause.

The improved sanitary survey system adopted by me of house-to-house inspection forms a complete record and sanitary reference book of houses, premises, schools, bakehouses, workshops, slaughter-houses, dairies, and cowsheds, and water supply throughout the district. In my periodical inspections I found the bakehouses and slaughter-houses were kept in good order and clean, also dairies. Cowsheds need improvement.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year. As already reported by our Medical Officer of Health, the absence of rain-water gutters to houses tends towards dampness and dilapidation of any house. I have had many such places remedied, and shall give special attention to it this year. At Stowe Lane, Colwall, it is proposed to lay about 100 yards of 6-inch stoneware sewer, with closed tank and filter bed overflow, to pass over land on the broad irrigation principle. I hope this will be carried out to remove a nuisance and pollution of stream in Stowe Lane.

The surroundings of all infectious disease notified during the year have been investigated and reported with all particulars. The system adopted, as reported last year, works well, and will tend to check the spread of infectious disease.

In looking over the Journal of Infectious Diseases, which date as far back as 1876, or a matter of 36 years, this year is the lowest on record of the number of notifications of infectious disease for the whole district.

I am pleased to acknowledge the assistance rendered me by owners and occupiers generally, who readily comply with my request to carry out my duties.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Cases inquired into	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Patients removed to Hospital	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Houses disinfected and cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Cases of illegal exposure	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

HOUSES.

Erected	16
Made fit for habitation	2
Closed as unfit for habitation	0
Cleansed and whitewashed	8
Overcrowding abated	1

WATER SUPPLY.

Wells sunk	6
Wells cleansed and repaired	7
Wells closed	2
Samples of water sent for analysis	17
Houses supplied from water works	9

HOUSE DRAINS.

Laid or relaid	62
Cleansed, trapped, and ventilated	15
Defective waste-pipes rectified	4
Insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified	2
Dumb wells rectified	15

WATER CLOSETS.

Additional provided	18
Repaired, ventilated, or provided with cisterns	6

PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

Privies and ashpits provided	11
Converted to w.c.'s	2
Converted into pail closets	15
Repaired	4

SCAVENGING.

Privies and ashpits ordered to be cleansed	17
Portable receptacles ordered to be cleansed	10

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

On register	7
---------------------	---

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

On register and inspected	18
Contraventions of D.C. and M. Order	0

CLERICAL WORK.

Letters written	101
Notices served	65
Notices complied with	64
Notices outstanding	1

THOMAS CAWSEY,

Certified Sanitary Inspector,

Member of the Sanitary

Inspectors Association, Colwall.

January, 1906.

LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

CENSUS RETURNS.

Sub-districts and Parishes.	Area in Acres.	Inhabited Houses.		Population.		Persons per House.	
		1891	1901	1891	1901	1891	1901
LEDBURY	24656	1036	1121	4696	5099	4.5	4.5
Bosbury	4825	217	210	916	872	4.2	4.1
Coddington	1028	35	33	168	144	4.8	4.3
Colwall	3835	312	402	1506	1892	4.8	4.7
Donnington.....	1038	20	20	112	112	5.6	5.6
Eastnor	3193	94	105	413	491	4.4	4.6
Ledbury rural	6666	166	166	783	827	4.7	4.9
Mathon rural	3038	88	91	379	387	4.3	4.2
Wellington Heath	1033	104	94	419	374	4.0	4.0
YARKHILL	25209	891	883	3992	3969	4.4	4.5
Ashperton	1692	90	81	362	363	4.0	4.4
Aylton	839	18	18	92	79	5.1	4.3
Canon Frome	1053	19	20	114	120	6.0	6.0
Castle Frome	1567	37	37	165	192	4.4	5.1
Eggleton	738	30	30	124	113	4.1	3.7
Little Marcel	1249	28	34	152	168	5.4	4.9
Much Marcle	4595	166	156	756	654	4.5	4.1
Munsley	1487	42	41	211	196	5.0	4.7
Pixley	1086	28	37	144	179	5.1	4.8
Putley	1110	49	54	217	266	4.4	4.9
Stretton Grandison	841	22	23	78	88	3.5	3.8
Tarrington	2236	113	111	456	476	4.2	4.2
Woolhope	4414	141	139	647	626	4.6	4.5
Yarkhill	2302	108	102	474	449	4.1	4.4
RURAL DISTRICT	49865	1927	2004	8688	9068	4.5	4.5

TABLE I. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).

LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1905 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 year of age		At all ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895 ..	8851	264	29.9	34	129	136	15.5	No Public Institutions.		15	151	17.0
1896 ..	8889	263	29.5	40	152	116	13.0			11	127	14.2
1897 ..	8927	262	29.3	27	103	126	14.1			10	136	15.2
1898 ..	8965	279	31.2	25	89	120	13.3			16	136	15.1
1899 ..	9003	244	27.1	14	57	109	12.1			9	118	13.1
1900 ..	9041	210	23.2	24	114	154	17.0			19	173	19.1
1901 ..	9079	217	23.9	20	92	112	12.3			11	123	13.5
1902 ..	9117	188	20.6	17	90	114	12.5			13	120	13.9
1903 ..	9155	204	22.2	23	112	107	11.6			13	120	13.1
1904 ..	9193	201	21.8	16	79	117	12.7			17	134	14.5
Averages for years 1895-1904	9024	233	25.9	24	102	121	13.4			13	134	14.9
1905	9231	211	22.8	18	85	95	10.2			13	108	11.6

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

† The "Public Institutions" taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are the Workhouse until 1895 within the district (Cols. 9 and 10), and the Workhouse (after 1895), the Ledbury Cottage Hospital, the County Asylum, and the Herefordshire General Hospital, beyond the district (Col. 11).

The Union Workhouse is not in the Ledbury Rural District.

Area of District in acres
(exclusive of area
covered by water). 49,758

Total population at all ages.....9,068
Number of inhabited houses2,004
Average number of persons per house .. 4.5

At Census
of 1901.

TABLE II. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).

LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICTS IN 1905
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.*Corrected for Residents and Non-residents.*

NAMES OF LOCALITIES	LEDBURY				YARKHILL.			
	Population esti- mated to Middle of each Year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to Middle of each Year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>
1895....	4868	149	98	25	3982	116	53	9
1896....	4909	153	59	29	3980	110	68	11
1897....	4949	167	75	20	3978	95	61	7
1898....	4989	186	71	18	3976	93	65	7
1899....	5029	136	63	4	3974	108	55	10
1900....	5069	118	93	11	3972	92	80	13
1901....	5109	126	66	11	3970	91	57	9
1902....	5149	107	62	9	3968	81	65	8
1903....	5189	112	67	13	3966	92	53	16
1904....	5229	109	67	8	3964	92	67	8
Averages of Years 1895 to 1904	5049	136 *27.3	72 *14.2	15 †11.0	3973	97 *24.4	62 *15.6	9 †9.2
1905	5269	110 *20.8	61 *12.7	11 †10.0	3962	101 *25.4	47 *11.8	7 †6.9

NOTES.—

- (1) The separate localities adopted for this Table are the registration sub-districts.
- (2) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are included in sub-columns *c* of this Table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded.
- (3) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.
- (4) The gross totals of the several columns in this Table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV.; thus, the totals of sub-columns *a*, *b* and *c* agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3 and 12 respectively of Table I.; the gross total of the sub-column *c* agrees with the total of column 2 in Table IV., and the gross total of sub-column *d* with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

* Rate per 1000 persons living.

† Rate per 1000 births, or infantile mortality rate.

TABLE III. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).
LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICTS.					TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH SUB-DISTRICT.		NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH SUB-DISTRICT.	
	At Ages—Years.					1 LED- BURY.	2 YARK- HILL.	1 LED- BURY.	2 YARK- HILL.
	At all ages.	Und'r 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and up- ward		
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	9	0	1	5	0	3	0	0	0
Membranous Croup...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Scarlet fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Typhus fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric fever	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Relapsing fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Continued fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal fever	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	13	0	1	6	1	5	0	7	0

NOTES.—The localities adopted for this Table are the same as those in Tables II. and IV.

There is no Isolation Hospital in the Ledbury District. Patients were removed to the Malvern Urban Isolation Hospital in 1901 and 1902.

TABLE IV. (EXTENDED). LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.
LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1905.

Corrected for Residents and Non-residents.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.								DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO SUB-DISTRICT. (AT ALL AGES).		TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.
	1 and 5 and 15 and 25 and 65 and under under under up- wards								LEDDEUR HILL.	YARK- HILL.	
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	3	4	5	6	7	8			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	in Ledbury Rural District.
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Whooping Cough	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Diphtheria and Membranous Group	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Group	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Typhus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Enteric	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other continued	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Epidemic Influenza	6	0	1	0	0	1	4	5	1	1	
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Diarrhoea	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Enteritis	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	
Puerperal Fever	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other septic diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Phthisis	12	0	0	1	1	10	0	6	0	6	
Other tubercular diseases	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Cancer, malignant disease	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	0	No Public Institutions
Bronchitis	5	0	1	0	0	1	3	4	1	
Pneumonia	8	2	2	1	0	3	1	6	2	
Pleurisy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other diseases of Respiratory organs.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Alcoholism.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cirrhosis of liver }										
Dentition	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Premature birth.....	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	
Diseases and accidents of parturition.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Heart disease	6	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3	
Heart disease (valvular).....	9	0	0	0	0	3	6	6	3	
Accidents.....	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	
Collapse	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Apoplexy	13	0	0	0	0	2	11	7	6	
Rheumatism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Marasmus	4	+	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	
Cerebro spinal fever	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Old age	13	0	0	0	0	1	12	5	8	
Myoma	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Convulsions	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Diabetes.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	
Tumour	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	
Cerebral softening	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
Strumous pyelitis	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	
Strumous abscess.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	
Lumbar	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	
Intestinal obstruction (Hernia)	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
Gastritis.....	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	
Hæmatemesis	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
All other causes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
All causes	108	18	6	1	2	38	43	61	47	

TABLE V. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).
LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905

Corrected for Residents and Non-Residents.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under
One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
ALL CAUSES.																	
Certified	2	..	1	..	3	2	2	1	2	1	..	1	..	..	2	..	15
Uncertified	3
Small-pox
Chicken-pox
Measles
Scarlet Fever
Diphtheria : Croup
Whooping Cough	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diarrhoea, all forms	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Enteritis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal
Catarrah
Premature Birth	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Congenital Defects
Injury at Birth
Want of Breast-milk
Atrophy, Debility,
Marasmus	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Tuberculous Meningitis
Tuberculous Peritonitis :
Tabes Mesenterica
Other Tuberculous Diseases
Erysipelas
Syphilis
Rickets
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)
Convulsions	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bronchitis	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Laryngitis
Pneumonia	1	..	..	1	..	2
Suffocation, overlaying	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Collapse	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cerebro-spinal fever	1	..	1
Hæmatemesis	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	5	..	1	..	6	2	2	1	3	1	..	1	..	..	2	..	18

None of above deaths were of illegitimate children.

Rural District of LEDBURY :—Population (estimated to middle of 1905), 9231.

Births in the year :—Legitimate, 198 ; illegitimate, 13.

Deaths from all causes at all ages (corrected for Residents and Non-residents) 108.

LEDBURY RURAL DISTRICT. WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

From information furnished by the Sanitary Inspector I have made a Register of the Workshops situated within the Ledbury Rural District.

Attention has been paid during 1905 to the limewashing of Blacksmiths' Shops.

The following is a summary of the Register of Workshops.

PARISH.	Bootmaker.	Blacksmith	Carpenter	Dressmaker	Machinist	Tailor	Saddler	Wheelwright	TOTAL
Ashperton	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	4
Bosbury	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	2	6
Canon Frome		1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
Castle Frome	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Coddington	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Colwall	2	3	4	3	1	1	1	3	18
Eastnor	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Ledbury rural	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Much Marcle	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Putley	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Tarrington	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	4
Wellington Heath ..	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Yarkhill	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Woolhope	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Total	4	19	9	4	1	1	2	12	52

Number of Inspections of Workshops	26
" " " Workplaces	8
" " " Homeworkers Premises	12
Defects Found	1

LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

	1891.	1901.	1905.
Area in Acres (exclusive of water)	— ..	55,326 ..	55,326
Population (Census)	8,384 ..	7,911 ..	—
Population (Midsummer)	— ..	7,896 ..	7,716
Inhabited houses	1,875 ..	1,872 ..	—
Persons per house	4.5 ..	4.2 ..	—
Rateable value 25th March ..	— ..	£77,763 ..	£78,569
A penny rate produces	— ..	— ..	£327
No. of parishes	— ..	26 ..	26
Death-rate all causes per 1,000..	16.5 ..	13.6 ..	15.9
Corrected for sex and age	14.1 ..	13.7 ..	13.6
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	— ..	24.4 ..	23.4

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER.

The Rural District of Leominster is situated in the north-east corner of the county, and does not quite surround the Urban District of Leominster. It is bounded on the north by the County of Salop, on the east by the County of Worcester and the Bromyard Rural District, on the south by the Hereford Rural District, and on the west by the Weobley and Wigmore Rural Districts. The district is for the most part flat, with rising ground on the western and southern boundaries.

Leominster railway station (in the Leominster Urban District) is 224ft. above sea level, and Bodenham is 200ft. A range of hills on the west rises to 943ft., and in the middle of the district a range of hills runs from north to south rising to 500ft. at Middleton hill. Dinnore hill in the south is 943ft. above sea level. The river Lugg enters the district about the middle of the western boundary; it flows in an easterly direction through the borough of Leominster, again enters the Rural District, and flows in a winding bed due south. The river Teme flows through the northern portion of the district from west to east, and the river Arrow flows from west to east through a part of the western portion.

Geologically the district is Old Red Sandstone with alluvial deposit in the low-lying portions following the courses of the rivers.

In the parishes of Croft, Ford, Hope, Laysters, Lucton, and Stoke Prior limestone crops up.

A clay subsoil is found over the greater portion of the district, and a subsoil of gravel in parts of the parishes of Bodenham, Docklow, Eye, Ford, Kingsland, Yarpole, Stoke Prior, and Brimfield. The hilly portions of Lucton, Croft, Yarpole, Orleton, and Richard's Castle are on rock.

There are within the district 26 parishes, all of which are in the county of Hereford, but the Rural District is not co-terminous either with the Registration District or with the Poor-law Union, which include the Borough of Leominster and Leominster Out-parish. In the Leominster Registration District and Poor-law Union are 23 parishes, in the Tenbury Registration District and Poor-law Union are two parishes (Brimfield and Little Hereford) and the parish of Richard's Castle is in the Ludlow Registration District and Poor-law Union. The population in the 26 parishes of the Rural District at the Census of 1901 varied from 10 in Newhampton to 975 in Kingsland. There are collections of houses into villages at Kingsland, Bodenham, Hope-under-Dinmore, Stoke Prior, Brimfield, Orleton, Yarpole, Kimbolton, Luston, and Hatfield.

There are 43 miles of county main roads and 156 miles of district roads in the Leominster Rural District.

INDUSTRIES.

The industries are entirely of an agricultural nature, hops and fruit being largely grown, and there is extensive breeding of Herefordshire cattle. There are corn mills in Bodenham, Eyton, Humber, Kingsland, Little Hereford, Lucton, Orleton, and Puddlestone.

RECENT ALTERATIONS IN AREA.

An account of the recent alterations in area will be found on p. 132 of my Report for 1904.

POPULATION.

The population of the Rural Sanitary District at the Census of 1891 was 8,121, and of the Rural District as it is now constituted the population was 8,384. The alterations in area mentioned above account for the difference. The estimated population at the middle of 1905, and upon which the figures in this report are based, is 7,716. The estimates in the populations in the years 1895-1904, given in column 2 of Table I., on p. 137, have been carefully calculated.

There was a decrease in the population of the whole district between 1891 and 1901 of 473 persons, and there was a decrease in 22 of the 26 parishes, the aggregate increase in the four remaining parishes being only 76.

BIRTHS.

No. 181. Birth-rate per 1,000, 23.4.

In the Leominster Rural District during 1905, 181 births were registered, of which number 89 were boys and 92 girls, equal to a birth-rate per 1,000 of 23.4. This rate is 1.9 per 1,000 above that recorded in 1904, and is 1.1 per 1,000 below the average rate of the previous ten years. The birth-rate in Rural England during 1905 was 20.3 per 1,000. A reference to p. 4 will show that the birth-rate in the Leominster Rural District is really higher than that prevailing in England and Wales generally.

In the Registration Sub-districts the birth-rates per 1,000 were

						Average of 10 years, 1905—1904.	
						1905.	
Leominster	..	..	..	..	..	21.8	.. 24.1
Bodenham	..	..	..	..	..	20.7	.. 24.8
Kingsland	..	..	..	..	..	23.0	.. 26.0
Tenbury	..	..	..	..	..	20.7	.. 21.2
Ludlow	..	..	..	..	..	21.2	.. 20.8*

* Average of 4 years.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

During 1905 there were registered in the Leominster Rural District 10 illegitimate births, equal to 5.5 per cent. of the total births, or to 1.2 per 1,000 of the population living. In the Leominster Sub-district 3.2 per cent. of the births were illegitimate, in the Bodenham 10.9 per cent., in the Kingsland 2.8 per cent., in the Tenbury 5.2 per cent., while in the Ludlow Sub-district there were no illegitimate births.

At the Census of 1901 there were in the Leominster Rural District 909 unmarried women and widows between the ages of 15 and 45 years. The proportion of illegitimate births per 1,000 of these women were thus 11.0, compared with 6.6, 7.7, and 11 per 1,000 in 1904, 1903, and 1902, and with 11.0 per 1,000 in the six combined districts. In the whole of England and Wales there were in 1904 (the latest year for which statistics are available) 8.4 illegitimate births to each 1,000 unmarried women and widows between 15 and 45 years.

DEATHS.

No. 123. Rate per 1,000, 15.9

The number of deaths registered in the Leominster Rural District during 1905 was 116, of which 56 were males and 60 females. There died in the Leominster Workhouse two persons, in the Leominster Cottage Hospital two persons, in the Herefordshire General Hospital one person, in the County Asylum one person, and in the Tenbury Hospital one person, who were residents within the Leominster Rural District. After making the necessary adjustments, the number of deaths among residents in the Leominster Rural District was 123 (60 males and 63 females), equal to a death-rate per 1,000 of 15.9. This rate is 0.5 per 1,000 below that recorded in 1904, and is 0.1 per 1,000 above the average death-rate in the previous ten years. (See Table I., p. 137). The death-rate in Rural England in 1905 was 14.9 per 1,000.

CORRECTED DEATH-RATE.—The death-rate from all causes in this country is lower at ages between 5 years and 55 years than it is at other periods, and it is lower among females than among males, and as the proportion of persons living at different age-periods and the proportion of males to females varies in different localities it is obviously necessary to make certain corrections if we are to compare with accuracy the death-rates of two or more districts. In order to make a true comparison with the rest of the country, I have worked out the factor of correction for the Leominster Rural District, and the death-rate thus corrected was 14.0 per 1,000 in 1905, compared with 15.2 in England and Wales. The corrected average death-rate in Leominster Rural District in the previous ten years was 13.6 per 1,000.

Among the inhabitants of the following five parishes, having a total population of 178 persons, no deaths occurred during 1905—Newhampton, Ford, Hampton Wafer, and Croft.

In the Registration Sub-districts the death-rates per 1,000 were

						Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.	
						1905.	
Leominster	..	..	..	..	..	13.4	.. 15.4
Bodenham	..	..	..	..	..	16.5	.. 15.2
Kingsland	..	..	..	..	..	15.4	.. 17.3
Tenbury	..	..	..	..	..	17.4	.. 13.7
Ludlow	..	..	..	..	..	25.0	.. 8.3*

*Average of 4 years.

I do not think any good purpose would be served by recording the death-rate for each parish during a single year, figures covering so short a period and for small populations would only be misleading.

In the following six parishes, each of which has a population of more than 400 persons, the death-rates per 1,000 were as follows :

				1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
Bodenham	..	..	..	10.7	.. 15.1	.. 23.8	.. 20.9	.. 20.0
Brimfield	..	..	..	9.5	.. 17.3	.. 11.5	.. 19.4	.. 17.6
Hope	..	..	..	27.9	.. 0.0	.. 6.0	.. 10.2	.. 14.3
Kimbolton	..	..	..	13.9	.. 8.7	.. 24.5	.. 22.9	.. 19.5
Kingsland	..	..	..	18.6	.. 17.7	.. 18.4	.. 22.4	.. 14.6
Little Hereford	..	..	..	12.1	.. 14.6	.. 12.2	.. 14.7	.. 17.2
Orleton	..	..	..	16.5	.. 9.1	.. 18.1	.. 14.4	.. 12.5
Yarpole	..	..	..	12.5	.. 23.1	.. 17.0	.. 14.9	.. 27.8

TABLE A.

The following Table gives the ages at death during 1905 in various groups for the Leominster Rural District, the registration sub-districts, and the six largest parishes.

	All Ages.	Undr 1 year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 to 85	Ovr 85
Leominster R. Dis	123	16	5	2	1	10	22	27	31	9
SUB-DISTRICTS :										
Leominster ..	19	3	0	0	0	1	5	1	6	3
Bodenham ..	36	2	1	1	1	7	3	13	7	1
Kingsland ..	46	9	2	0	0	0	10	9	12	4
Tenbury	16	2	2	0	0	2	4	2	3	1
Ludlow	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	3	0
PARISHES :										
Bodenham ..	14	1	0	0	0	4	2	4	3	0
Brimfield	9	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	3	0
Hope	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	1	1
Kimbolton	11	2	0	0	0	1	3	1	2	2
Kingsland ..	13	3	1	0	0	0	3	2	2	2
Little Hereford ..	7	0	2	0	0	2	1	1	0	1
Orleton	7	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1
Varpole	13	2	0	0	0	0	4	4	3	0

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

2.6 per cent. of the total deaths.

Of the 116 deaths registered in the Leominster Rural District in 1905 there were 112 certified by registered medical practitioners, 1 by the Coroner, and 3 were uncertified. Given as percentages of the total deaths 96.5 per cent. were certified by medical practitioners, 0.8 per cent. by the Coroner, and 2.6 per cent. were uncertified. There were no uncertified deaths registered in the Leominster, Bodenham and Ludlow Sub-districts; two were registered in the Kingsland and one in the Tenbury Sub-districts.

The cause of death entered by the Registrars in the case of the uncertified deaths were—Heart disease (2), Unknown.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

						Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.	
						1905.	
Leominster Rural District	..	..	..	..	..	88	90
Rural England	..	..	..	..	..	113	—

The amount of child mortality is measured by stating the number of children who have died under one year old within a certain period in proportion to 1,000 births during the same period. In the Leominster Rural District during 1905 there were born 181 children, and 16 children died under 12 months old. The infantile mortality rate was thus equal to 88 per 1,000 births. This number is below the average (90) for the previous 10 years.

In the Registration Sub-districts the infantile mortality rate was

						Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.	
						1905.	
Leominster	..	..	..	..	..	96	83
Bodenham	..	..	..	..	..	36	70
Kingsland	..	..	..	..	..	126	102
Tenbury	..	..	..	..	..	105	100
Ludlow	..	..	..	..	..	—	—

The 16 children under 12 months old who died in the Leominster Rural District during 1905 were registered as having died from the following causes:—Enteritis, Bronchitis (2), Premature Birth (4), Convulsions (2), Debility, Whooping Cough (2), Pneumonia, Jaundice, congenital Heart disease, and Marasmus.

ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS.—There was one death in the Leominster Rural District during 1905 among illegitimate children under 12 months old, giving an infantile mortality rate of 100 per 1,000 illegitimate births compared with 87 per 1,000 in the case of legitimate births and deaths.

ZYMOTIC (INFECTIOUS) DISEASES.

	1905.	Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
Death-rate per 1,000	0.39	0.49
„ „ Rural England	1.09	..

The seven diseases named below are those which are included in the expression “ principal zymotic diseases.”

	No. of cases.	No. of deaths.
Small-pox	0	0
Measles	*	1
Scarlet Fever	15	0
Whooping Cough	*	2
Diphtheria	15	0
Typhoid Fever	1	0
Diarrhœa	*	0

* Not notifiable.

SMALL-POX was not present in any part of the district during 1903, 1904, or 1905.

SCARLET FEVER.—The 15 cases of scarlet fever occurred in 9 houses in 7 parishes. The disease was at no time epidemic. No deaths resulted.

DIPHTHERIA.—The 15 cases of diphtheria were in 9 houses in 5 different parishes. All the patients recovered. What threatened to be a serious outbreak among the children attending the Upper Hill schools in the parish of Hope was checked because I was able by bacteriological examination to keep from school attendance three children who had the diphtheria germs in their throats, though otherwise quite well.

PHTHISIS.				Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.	
1905.					
Death-rate per 1,000	..	..	..	0.77	.. 0.58

There were six deaths from consumption (four males and two females) among residents from the parishes of Stoke Prior, Humber, Eyton, Richard's Castle, Little Hereford, and Yarpole. Their ages varied from 7 to 71 years.

A system of voluntary notification of cases of phthisis was adopted by the District Council from July 1st, 1903. Four cases were notified in 1903, three in 1904 and two in 1905. Disinfection was carried out in two instances in 1903, three in 1904, and two in 1905.

CANCER.				Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.	
1905.					
Death-rate per 1,000	..	..	..	1.29	.. 1.47

The number of deaths due to cancer is high, no fewer than 10 having been registered (four males and six females). They occurred among residents from the following parishes:—Kimbolton (2), Yarpole (2), Bodenham (4), Orleton, Luston. The ages at death varied from 31 years to 78 years.

TABLE B.
LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.
ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.

Name of Disease.	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	Total 1895 to 1904	1905
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
Scarlet Fever	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	4	8	0
Whooping Cough ..	0	1	3	1	2	1	3	3	0	1	15	2
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	5	0
Typhoid Fever	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Influenza	0	0	13	6	6	20	10	3	5	4	67	1
Diarrhoea	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	7	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
Erysipelas	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0
Phthisis	8	8	1	6	2	3	1	6	5	5	45	6
Cancer	14	11	10	15	17	7	13	6	7	16	116	10
Bronchitis Pneumonia, Pleurisy, &c.	17	11	14	8	9	16	18	15	10	12	130	16
Heart Diseases	23	22	14	18	14	21	13	15	16	21	177	28
Accidents	6	3	4	4	3	3	3	1	3	4	34	0

TABLE C.
LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.
ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.

Year.	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Typhus Fever	Typhoid Fever	Diarrhoea	Total
1875.....	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	5	10
1876.....	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	4
1877.....	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	5
1878.....	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	5	8
1879.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	5
1880.....	0	2	6	1	2	0	0	4	15
1881.....	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	5
1882.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	3
1883.....	0	0	3	5	2	0	0	2	12
1884.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	5
1885.....	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	3
1886.....	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	4
1887.....	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	5
1888.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
1889.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
1890.....	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	3	6
1891.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1892.....	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	3
1893.....	0	1	4	0	5	0	1	2	13
1894.....	0	0	0	4	4	0	0	0	8
1895.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
1896.....	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	4
1897.....	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	0	5
1898.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
1899.....	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	4
1900.....	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
1901.....	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
1902.....	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	1	7
1903.....	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	4
1904.....	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	1	6
1905	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	3

ISOLATION HOSPITAL, ACCOMMODATION.

There is no means of isolating cases of infectious disease within the Leominster Rural District. (See p. 142 of 1904 report).

WATER SUPPLY.

I have not been able to find any resolution defining a "reasonable distance" within which there should be a supply of water to houses.

Taking the district as a whole the supply is obtained from shallow wells on the premises of the inhabitants. An exception is in the parish of Hope, where pipes have been laid from a hillside spring to the schools, and to three stand pipes accessible by the villagers.

DRAINAGE AND EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

At Kingsland there is a common drain into which the slop water drainage from 28 houses discharges. For the greater part of its course this drain is an open ditch which is lined for about 80 yards with half pipes. The residential houses in the district are provided with water closets, and the drainage discharges into cesspools or on to land or directly into a watercourse. Nearly all other houses and cottages have privy closets; except on the Hampton Court estate, there are only a very few pail or earth closets. In view of the large number of shallow wells in some portions of the district, especially in Kingsland, the substitution of some form of earth closet for the privies is very desirable. (See p. 13).

HOUSING.

The average number of persons per house at the last Census was 4.2, and of the 2,065 houses in the district 174, or 8 per cent., were unoccupied. No houses were certified by me as unfit for human habitation during 1905.

There are many substantially built houses in the district, and the defects found in others are such as in the majority of cases can be easily rectified. (See p. 4).

PERMISSIVE POWERS.

The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, and the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, have not been adopted by the District Council, nor does the Council possess any of the Urban powers of the Public Health Act, 1875.

There are no By-laws in force with respect to

Private scavenging.

Tents and vans.

Houses let in lodgings.

Mortuaries and Cemeteries.

Hop and fruit pickers.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

No regulations have been made under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885.

I reported during the year upon the desirability of making regulations but the Council decided, after discussion, that they were not necessary. (See p. 23).

At the end of the year there were eight dairies and cowsheds on the register, situated in the following parishes:—Kimbolton, Kingsland, and Middleton-on-the-Hill.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are five slaughter-houses in the district situated in the parishes of Bodenham, Brimfield, Kingsland (2), and Orleton. Some of them require very frequent inspections. There are no By-laws in force with respect to slaughter-houses.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Mr. J. T. Stephens was appointed Inspector of Nuisances in the year 1884, and has been re-appointed since at three-yearly intervals. He receives a salary of £70 per annum, one-half of which is paid from the county funds. He pays his own travelling expenses (including the cost of a horse and bicycle) and incidental expenses, except stamps and stationery. He also acts as Inspector under the Petroleum Act, 1871.*

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Cases inquired into	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Patients removed to hospital	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Houses disinfected and cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Lots of bedding, clothing, &c., disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Cases of illegal exposure	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

HOUSES.

Erected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Made fit for habitation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Closed as unfit for habitation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cleansed and whitewashed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Overcrowding abated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7

* Mr. Stephens resigned his office (much to my regret) from 25th March 1906 and Mr. Cave was elected in his stead.

WATER SUPPLY.

Wells sunk	I
Wells cleansed and repaired	II
Wells closed	0
Samples of water sent for analysis	6

HOUSE DRAINS.

Laid or relaid	10
Cleansed, trapped, and ventilated	8
Defective waste-pipes reetified	0
Insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals reetified.. .. .	0
Dumb wells reetified	0

WATER CLOSETS.

Additional provided	0
Repaired, ventilated, or provided with eisterns.. .. .	0

PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

New privies provided	4
Converted to w.c.'s	0
Converted to pail elosets	5
Repaired	6

SCAVENGING.

Privies and ashpits cleansed	10
Removals of offensive refuse	2

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

On register	5
Cleansed and repaired	5

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

On register and repaired	8
Contraventions of D.C. and M. Order	0

UN SOUND FOOD.

Seizures	0
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CLERICAL WORK.

Letters	54
Notiees served	68
Notiees complied with	63
Notiees outstanding	5

J. T. STEPHENS,

Inspector of Nuisanees,

Kingsland, Leominster.

January 3rd, 1906.

LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

CENSUS RETURNS

Sub-districts and Parishes.	Area in Acres.	Inhabited Houses.		Population.		Persons per house	
		1891	1901	1891	1901	1891	1901
LEOMINSTER	13006	344	354	1610	1477	4.6	4.1
Hatfield	1948	40	40	241	218	6.0	5.4
Kimbolton	4140	133	141	599	574	4.5	4.0
Laysters	1995	48	47	200	191	4.1	4.0
Middleton-on-the-hill ..	2997	67	67	308	272	4.3	4.0
Newhampton	148	2	2	10	10	5.0	5.0
Puddleston	1778	54	57	252	212	4.6	3.7
BODENHAM	16862	553	537	2502	2270	4.5	4.2
Bodenham	5295	200	176	883	743	4.4	4.2
Decklow	1285	31	32	169	158	5.3	4.9
Ford	303	4	4	14	13	3.5	3.2
Hampton Wafer	383	3	2	15	15	5.0	7.5
Hope-un-er-Dinmore ..	3854	103	114	514	501	5.0	4.3
Humber	1836	60	57	239	213	4.0	3.5
Monkland	1108	52	49	207	201	4.0	4.1
Newton	515	14	16	50	68	4.5	4.2
Stoke Prior	2333	86	87	411	355	4.7	4.0
KINGSLAND	17733	702	708	3038	2991	4.3	4.2
Croft	1059	5	6	27	37	5.4	6.1
Eye Moreton & Ashton..	2736	66	59	315	315	4.7	5.3
Eyton	1015	26	32	113	151	4.3	4.9
Kingsland	4932	242	238	975	910	4.0	3.8
Lucton*	1051	28	26	204	187	7.2	8.0
Luston	1800	87	89	379	369	4.3	4.1
Orleton	2606	129	136	513	543	3.9	4.0
Yarpole	2534	119	122	512	479	4.3	3.9
LUDLOW :							
Richards Castle	2500	61	59	249	239	4.0	4.0
TENBURY	5392	215	214	985	934	4.5	4.3
Brimfield	1853	123	136	560	523	4.5	4.0
Little Hereford	3539	92	78	425	411	4.6	5.2
RURAL DISTRICT	55493	1875	1872	8384	7911	4.4	4.2

* There is a large Public School in the parish of Lucton.

TABLE I. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).
LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICTS DURING 1905
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGIS- TERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN DISTRICT	Deaths of non-residents registered in Public Insti- tutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents regis- tered in Public Institutions beyond the district.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate.	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	†11	12	13
1895†	7828	234	29.5	18	76	131	16.5	No Public Institutions.		8	139	17.5
1896†	7882	168	21.3	16	95	117	14.8			9	126	15.9
1897..	7836	210	26.7	17	80	130	16.5			10	140	17.8
1898..	7791	192	24.6	15	78	106	13.6			8	114	14.6
1899..	7747	194	25.0	22	113	113	14.5			8	121	15.6
1900..	7701	190	24.6	22	115	139	18.0			8	147	18.0
1901..	7896	193	24.4	14	72	97	12.2			11	108	13.6
1902..	7851	196	24.9	20	102	98	12.4			10	108	13.7
1903..	7806	176	22.5	15	85	97	12.4		14	111	14.2	
1904..	7761	167	21.5	11	83	116	14.9		12	128	16.4	
Averages for year 1895-1904	7770	192	24.5	17	90	114	14.6			10	124	15.8
1905	7716	181	23.4	16	88	116	15.0			7	123	15.9

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimate population.

† Alterations in the area of the District were made on 1st January and 12th June, 1895, and on 29th September, 1896.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there: and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

† The "Public Institutions" taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are the Workhouse, the Leominster Cottage Hospital, the County Asylum, the Herefordshire General Hospital, and the Tenbury Hospital, beyond the district (Col. 11).

The Union Workhouse is not within the Leominster Rural District.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).	{	Total population at all ages.....	7,911	{	At Census of 1901
55,326		Number of inhabited houses.....	1,872		
		Average number of persons per house..	4.2		

TABLE II. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).

LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICTS IN 1905 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Corrected for Residents and Non-Residents.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	LEOMINSTER SUB-DISTRICT.				BODENHAM DISTRICT.				KINGSLAND DISTRICT.				TENBURY (BRIMFIELD AND LITTLE HEREFORD).				LUDLOW (RICHARDS CASTLE). §			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births Regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births regis- tered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1895 ...	1551	41	28	4	2400	75	34	2	3017	100	60	10	960	18	17	2	960	18	17	2
1896 ...	1538	34	23	3	2377	57	35	2	3012	68	63	10	955	9	5	1	955	9	5	1
1897 ...	1525	37	31	3	2354	70	35	2	3007	74	54	9	950	29	19	3	950	29	19	3
1898 ...	1512	35	19	1	2331	48	32	1	3003	83	50	5	945	26	13	3	243	24	13	3
1899 ...	1499	44	26	7	2308	56	40	5	2999	76	42	8	941	18	13	2	242	26	13	3
1900 ...	1486	39	21	3	2285	58	44	7	2993	72	68	11	937	21	14	1	241	18	13	2
1901 ...	1473	34	24	3	2262	52	34	6	2989	77	39	5	933	21	10	0	240	21	10	0
1902 ...	1460	40	15	3	2239	54	30	6	2985	83	46	10	929	14	15	0	238	14	15	0
1903 ...	1447	29	22	5	2216	47	31	1	2981	75	43	7	925	22	11	2	237	22	11	2
1904 ...	1434	25	23	1	2193	49	34	2	2978	70	53	8	920	17	16	3	236	17	16	3
Average of Years 1895 to 1904	1491	36 * 24.1	23 * 15.4	3 † 83	2297	57 * 24.8	35 * 15.2	4 † 70	2996	78 * 26.0	52 * 17.3	8 † 102	940	20 * 21.2	13 * 13.7	2 † 100	240	5 * 20.8	2 * 8.3	† 50
1905	1421	31 * 21.8	19 * 13.4	3 † 96	2170	55 * 20.7	36 * 16.5	2 † 36	2974	71 * 23.9	46 * 15.4	9 † 126	916	19 * 20.7	16 * 17.4	2 † 105	235	5 * 21.2	6 * 25.0	† 0

Notes - (1) The separate localities adopted for this Table are the registration sub-districts.

(2) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the districts are included in sub-columns c of this Table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded.

(3) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.

(4) The gross totals of the several columns in this Table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV.; thus, the totals of sub-columns a, b and c agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3 and 12 respectively of Table I.; the gross total of the sub-column c agrees with the total of column 2 in Table IV., and the gross total of sub-column d with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

* Rate per 1000 persons living.
† Rate per 1000 births or infantile mortality rate.

§ Added to Leominster Rural District in 1896.

TABLE III. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.)
LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICT.					No. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICT. †					
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.						1 LEO- MINSTER.	2 BODEN- HAM.	3 KINGS- LAND.	4 TEN- BURY.	5 LUD- LOW.	1 LEO- MINSTER.	2 BODEN- HAM.	3 KINGS- LAND.	4 TEN- BURY.	5 LUD- LOW.
		65and 65 to 25 to up- wards															
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards										
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Diphtheria	15	0	4	10	1	0	0	0	9	6	0	0					
Membranous Croup ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Erysipelas	4	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	3	0	0					
Scarlet fever	15	0	2	8	4	1	0	5	2	4	4	0					
Typhus fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Enteric fever	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0					
Relapsing fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Continued fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Puerperal fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					
* Phthisis	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0					
Totals	37	0	6	18	6	5	2	5	13	14	5	0					

NOTES.—The localities adopted for this Table are the same as those in Tables II. and IV.

* Phthisis has been notified in the Leominster Rural District since 1st July, 1903.

† There is no Isolation accommodation available in the Leominster Rural District.

TABLE IV. (EXTENDED). LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.
LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1905

Corrected for Residents and Non-residents.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.								DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO SUB-DISTRICTS (AT ALL AGES).					TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS IN THE DISTRICT.
	All Under 1 and 5 and 15 and 25 and 65 and ages. 1 year 5 15 25 65 wards								LEO- MINSTER.	BODEN- HAM.	KINGS- LAND.	TEN- BURY.	LUD- LOW.	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8							
1								9	10	11	12	13	14	
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Measles	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Whooping Cough	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0		
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Typhus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Enteric	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Other continued	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Epidemic Influenza	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0		
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Diarrhoea	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0		
Enteritis	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0		
Puerperal fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Other septic diseases	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0		
Phthisis	6	0	0	1	0	4	1	0	2	2	1	1		
Other tubercular diseases	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		
Cancer, malignant disease	10	0	0	0	0	4	6	2	4	4	0	0		
Bronchitis	13	2	1	0	0	1	9	0	2	8	1	0		
Pneumonia	3	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	1	0		
Pleurisy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
													in Leominster R.D.	

in Leominster R.D.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	No Public Institutions
Alcoholism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cirrhosis of liver	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Jaundice	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	
Premature birth	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Gastric ulcer	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Gastritis	18	1	0	0	0	2	15	2	4	8	1	0	
Heart disease	10	0	0	0	0	4	6	3	3	3	1	0	
Heart disease (valvular)	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	
Suicide	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	
Nephritis	2	0	0	0	0	2	6	0	3	1	1	0	
Apoplexy	7	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	
Paralysis agitans	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	
Diabetes	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	
Old age	17	0	0	0	0	0	17	6	4	5	2	0	
Phlebitis	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Cerebral tumour	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
Exophthalmic goitre	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	
Meningitis	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
Convulsions	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
Rheumatic arthritis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Debility	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	
Intestinal obstruction	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Peritonitis	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Myelitis	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	
Marasmus	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
Dentition	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Unknown	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	
All other causes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
All causes	123	16	5	2	1	32	67	19	36	46	16	6	

TABLE V. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).
LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.
INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905.
(Corrected for Residents and Non-Residents).

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under
One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year
ALL CAUSES.																	
Certified	6	..	..	2	8	..	1	..	1	3	..	1	2	..	..	..	16
Uncertified
Small-pox
Chicken-pox
Measles
Scarlet Fever
Diphtheria : Croup
Whooping Cough	2	..	..	..	2
Diarrhœa, all forms
Enteritis (not Tuberculous)	1	..	..	..	..	1
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal
Catarrh
Premature Birth	4	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Congenital Defects	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Injury at Birth
Want of Breast-milk
Atrophy, Debility,
Marasmus	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Tuberculous Meningitis
Tuberculous Peritonitis :
Tuberc. Mesenterica
Other Tuberculous Diseases
Erysipelas
Syphilis
Rickets
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)
Convulsions	*1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bronchitis	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Laryngitis
Pneumonia	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Suffocation, overlaying
Jaundice	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	6	..	..	2	8	..	1	..	1	3	..	1	2	..	..	..	16

* Illegitimate.

Rural District of LEOMINSTER :—Population (estimated to middle of 1905) 7716.

Births in the year :—Legitimate, 171 ; illegitimate, 10.

Deaths from all causes at all ages (corrected for Residents and Non-residents) 123.

LEOMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

WORKSHOPS.

From information furnished by the Sanitary Inspector I have made a Register of the Workshops situated within the Leominster Rural District.

Attention was paid during 1905 to the Limewashing of Blacksmiths' shops.

The following is a summary of the Register of Workshops :

PARISH.	Baker.	Blacksmith.	Carpenter.	Laundry.	Machinist.	Sawmill.	Tailor.	Wheelwright	TOTAL.
Bodenham	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Brimfield	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	4
Dinmore	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
Docklow	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Eye	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Eyton	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Humber	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Little Hereford	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Kimbolton	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	4
Kingsland	2	2	0	1	0	0	1	3	9
Lucton	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Luston	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	3
Middleton	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Monkland	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Orleton	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
Puddlestone	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
Stoke Prior	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Yarpole	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total.. .. .	10	21	4	1	1	3	1	12	54

Number of Inspections of Workshops	40
" " " Written Notices sent	2
Defects Found—Want of Cleanliness	2
" " Defective Sanitary Accommodation	0

WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

	1891	1901	1905
Area in Acres (exclusive of water)	—	49,472	49,472
Population (Census)	7,406	6,951	—
Population (Midsummer)	—	6,939	6,760
Inhabited houses (Census) ..	1,719	1,651	—
Persons per house	4.3	4.2	—
Rateable value 25th March ..	£67,859	£65,606	£65,148
A penny rate produces	—	£188	£188
No. of parishes	—	26	26
Death-rate all causes per 1,000..	24.7	18.0	17.7
Corrected for sex and age	21.1	15.3	15.1
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	—	23.0	23.9

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER.

The Rural District of Weobley is situated in the north-eastern portion of the county, and is bounded on the north by the Wigmore Rural District, on the east by the Leominster Rural and Urban Districts and the Hereford Rural Districts, on the south by the Dore Rural District, and on the north-west by the Kington Rural District. The district is a hilly one, many peaks rising abruptly. The Weobley Workhouse is 291ft. above sea level, and Canon Bridge is 191ft., while Merry Hill in the south-east is 600ft., Mansell Hill in the south 763ft., and Wormsley Hill 881ft.

Streams from the hills empty into the rivers Arrow in the north and Wye in the south. Both these rivers flow across the district from west to east.

Geologically the district is Old Red Sandstone.

In the parishes of Bridge Sollers, Eardisland and Letton are alluvial deposit, and limestone crops up in the parish of Mansell Gamage.

Over nearly the whole district there is a clay subsoil with sandstone in the parishes of Brobury, Moceas, Preston-on-Wye and Staunton-on-Wye.

There are 26 parishes within the district, which is co-terminous with the Weobley Registration District and with the Weobley Poor-law Union. The whole district is in the county of Hereford. At the Census of 1901 the population in the parishes varied from 34 in Stretford to 958 in Dilwyn. In six parishes the inhabitants number less than 100. The parish of Weobley, with a population of 752, contains the town of Weobley, where there are about 100 houses more or less compactly gathered together. There are collections of houses into villages at Almeley, Canon Pyon, Dilwyn, Eardisland, Staunton-on-Wye, Kinnersley, King's Pyon and Preston-on-Wye.

There are 45 miles of county main roads and 130 miles of district roads in the Weobley district.

INDUSTRIES.

The industries are altogether of an agricultural character. Hops and fruit are extensively grown, and there is breeding of Herefordshire cattle. A quarry was worked in 1902 in the parish of Sarnesfield; and in the parishes of Mansell Lacy, Mansell Gamage, Byford, Brobury, Staunton-on-Wye, Norton Canon, and Moceas a great deal of timber has been felled during the past few years. There are corn mills in Weobley parish, and two cider works in Canon Pyon. Sawmills and turnery are established in Almeley.

ALTERATIONS IN AREA.

There have been no alterations in the area of the Weobley district in the past ten years.

POPULATION.

The population of the Weobley Rural District at the Census of 1901 was 6,951. During the ten years 1891-1901 there was an average yearly decrease in the population of 45 persons over the whole district, but in six parishes there was an aggregate increase of 94 persons. The estimated population in the middle of 1905 is 6,760, the number upon which the figures in this report are based.

BIRTHS.

No. 162. Birth-rate per 1,000, 23.9.

There were 162 births registered in the Weobley Rural District during 1905, of which 91 were boys and 71 girls, equal to a birth-rate per 1,000 of 23.9. This rate is 2.8 per 1,000 below that recorded in 1904, and 0.3 per 1,000 above the average rate of the previous ten years. The birth-rate in Rural England during 1905 was 26.3 per 1,000. A reference to p. 4 will show that the birth-rate in the Weobley Rural District is only slightly below that prevailing in England and Wales generally.

In the Registration Sub-districts the birth-rates were

								Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
								1905.
Weobley	..	..	..	..	..	..	25.4	22.7
Dilwyn	..	..	..	..	..	..	21.8	27.5

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

During 1905 there were registered in the Weobley Rural District 18 illegitimate births, equal to 11.1 per cent. of the total births, or to 2.6 per 1,000 of the population living. In the Weobley Sub-district 13.8 per cent. of the births were illegitimate, and in the Dilwyn Sub-district 6.5 per cent.

At the Census of 1901 there were in the Weobley Rural District 807 unmarried women and widows between the ages of 15 and 45 years. The proportion of illegitimate births per 1,000 of these women was thus 22.3, compared with 18.5, 17.3, and 12.3 per 1000, in 1904, 1903, and 1902, and with 11.0 per 1,000 in the six combined Rural Districts. In the whole of England and Wales in 1904 (the latest year for which statistics are available) there were 8.4 illegitimate births to each 1,000 unmarried women and widows between 45 and 15 years.

DEATHS.

No. 120. Rate per 1,000, 17.7.

The number of deaths registered in the Weobley Rural District during 1905 was 116, of which 53 were males and 63 females. Two residents in the Weobley Rural District died during the year in the County Asylum, and two in the Herefordshire General Hospital. After making, therefore, the necessary adjustments, the number of deaths among residents in the Weobley Rural District was 120 (56 males and 64 females), equal to a death-rate of 17.7 per 1,000. This rate is 3.3 per 1,000 above that recorded in 1904, and is 1.2 per 1,000 above the average death-rate of the previous 10 years. (See Table I., p. 000).

Among the inhabitants of the following five parishes, having a total population of 427 persons, no deaths occurred during 1905 :—Bridge Sollers, Letton, Monnington-on-Wye, Sarnesfield, and Stretford.

In the Registration Sub-districts the death-rates were

							Average of 10 years, 1895—1904	
							1905.	
Weobley	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.3	.. 16.9
Dilwyn	..	..	..	..	..	..	21.1	.. 16.0
Weobley Rural District	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.7	.. 16.5

I do not think any good purpose would be served by recording the death-rate for each parish during a single year, the figures covering so short a period and for small populations would only be misleading.

In the seven parishes, each of which has a population of more than 400 persons, the death-rates per 1,000 were as follows :—

				1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
Almeley	..	..	..	12.0	18.0	18.1	16.0	10.2
Canon Pyon	..	..	..	24.6	14.1	14.2	8.9	21.6
Dilwyn	..	..	..	13.5	15.8	15.0	15.1	27.1
Eardisland	..	..	..	29.7	17.1	15.0	30.5	30.6
King's Pyon	..	..	..	13.6	11.4	16.0	9.3	11.6
Staunton-on-Wye	..	..	..	17.3	17.2	9.5	20.8	9.4
Weobley	..	..	..	19.9	22.7	12.1	10.8	26.0

CORRECTED DEATH-RATE.—The death-rate from all causes in this country is lower at ages between 5 years and 55 years than it is at other periods, and it is also lower among females than among males, and as the proportion of persons living at different age periods and the proportion of males to females varies in different localities, it is obviously necessary to make certain corrections if we are to compare with accuracy the death-rates of two or more districts. In order to make a true comparison with the rest of the country I have worked out the factor of correction for Weobley Rural District, and the death-rate thus corrected was 15.1 per 1,000 in 1905, compared with 15.2 per 1,000 in England and Wales. The corrected average death-rate in Weobley Rural District in the previous ten years was 15.1 per 1,000.

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

2.7 per cent. of the total deaths.

Of the 116 deaths registered in the Weobley Rural District in 1905 there were 106 certified by the registered medical practitioners, 7 by the Coroner, and 3 were uncertified. Given as percentages of the total deaths, 91.3 per cent. were certified by medical practitioners, 6.0 per cent. by the Coroner, and 2.7 per cent. were uncertified. There were no uncertified deaths in the Dilwyn Registration Sub-district.

The cause of death entered by the Registrars in the case of the uncertified deaths was—Convulsions, Heart failure, Heart disease.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

	1905.	Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
Weobley Rural District	104	91
Rural England	113	—

The amount of child mortality is measured by stating the number of children who have died under one year old within a certain period in proportion to 1,000 births during the same period. In the Weobley Rural District during 1905 there were born 162 children, and 17 children died under 12 months old. The infantile mortality rate was thus equal to 104 per 1,000 births. This number was above the average (91) for the previous 10 years.

ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS.—There were five deaths in the Weobley Rural District during 1905 among illegitimate children under 12 months old, giving an infantile mortality rate of 277 per 1,000 illegitimate births, compared with 83 per 1,000 in the case of legitimate births and deaths.

In the Registration Sub-districts the infantile mortality rate was

	1905.	Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
Weobley	59	106
Dilwyn	180	75

The 17 children under 12 months old who died in the Weobley Rural District during 1905 were certified as having died from the following causes :—Premature birth (3), Whooping Cough, Marasmus (3), Gastritis, Convulsions, Enteritis, Pneumonia (2), Inanition (2), and Congenital malformation (3).

TABLE A.

The following Table gives the ages at death during 1905 in various groups for the Weobley Rural District, the registration sub-districts, and the seven largest parishes.

	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 to 85	Over 85
Weobley District	120	17	7	3	4	12	32	19	20	6
SUB-DISTRICTS :										
Weobley	61	6	4	2	1	5	23	8	9	3
Dilwyn	59	11	3	1	3	7	9	11	11	3
PARISHES :										
Almeley	5	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0
Canon Pyon ..	12	1	1	0	1	1	2	3	2	1
Dilwyn	25	5	2	0	1	4	4	6	2	1
Eardisland ..	14	2	0	1	1	1	2	1	5	1
King's Pyon ..	5	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Staunton-on-Wye	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1
Weobley	19	3	1	1	0	1	8	2	3	0

ZYMOTIC (INFECTIOUS) DISEASES.

						Average of
						10 years,
						1895—1904.
					1905	
Death-rate per 1,000	0.59	..	..	..	..	0.66
„ „ Rural England	1.09	..	..	..	..

The seven diseases named below are those which are included in the expression “ principal zymotic diseases.”

						No. of cases.	No. of deaths.
Small-pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0
Measles .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*	0
Scarlet fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	9	1
Whooping cough .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*	2
Diphtheria .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1
Typhoid fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
Diarrhœa .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	*	0

* Not notifiable.

SMALL-POX.—There were no cases of small-pox in 1903, 1904, or 1905.

SCARLET FEVER.—In January there were six cases (one fatal) of Scarlet Fever in one house in Kings Pyon. The three other cases reported were from three different parishes. All the patients were treated in their own homes.

DIPHTHERIA.—One case of diphtheria was reported from the Weobley Workhouse. There was a fatal case on Weobley Marsh, three other non-fatal cases in two houses in Weobley and two cases in two houses in Eardisland.

PHTHISIS.				Average of	
				10 years,	
				1895—1904.	
				1905.	
Death-rate per 1,000	..	..	..	0.59	.. 0.75

The four deaths from Consumption occurred in the following parishes :—Dilwyn, Kinnersley, Norton Canon, and Weobley. The ages at death varied from 21 years to 54 years ; two were males and two were females.

CANCER.				Average of	
				seven years.	
				1898—1904.	
				1905.	
Death-rate per 1,000	..	..	..	1.03	.. 0.82

The seven deaths (three males and four females) from Cancer occurred among residents in Dilwyn (3), Preston-on-Wye, Staunton-on-Wye, Eardisland, and Weobley. The ages at death varied from 36 to 77 years.

TABLE B.
 WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT.
 ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.

Name of Disease.	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	Total 1895to 1904	1905
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	1	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	7	0
Scarlet Fever	0	2	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	8	1
Whooping Cough	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	9	2
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ..	0	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	3	13	1
Typhoid Fever	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Influenza	1	0	8	9	3	13	8	4	3	4	53	3
Diarrhoea	3	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	8	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Phthisis	5	6	1	7	2	5	7	6	6	5	53	4
Cancer .. .. .	..	..	..	5	8	3	7	9	6	2	*40	7
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy, &c.	11	20	4	11	19	17	20	20	16	11	149	15
Heart Diseases	21	16	24	10	9	9	16	14	13	16	148	17
Accidents	6	5	1	4	7	10	4	7	1	2	47	4

* Total of 7 years.

TABLE C.
WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT.
ACTUAL NUMBER OF DEATHS.

Year.	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Typhus Fever	Typhoid Fever	Diarrhea	TOTAL
1875.....	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	4
1876.....	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	3	9
1877.....	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	6
1878.....	0	0	0	0	8	0	1	2	11
1879.....	0	0	3	0	5	0	0	1	9
1880.....	0	0	6	0	7	0	1	4	18
1881.....	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	3
1882.....	0	9	16	5	0	0	1	2	33
1883.....	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	2	9
1884.....	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	4
1885.....	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	5
1886.....	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	6
1887.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
1888.....	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	4
1889.....	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
1890.....	0	2	0	7	0	0	0	1	10
1891.....	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
1892.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
1893.....	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
1894.....	0	4	1	0	1	0	1	0	7
1895.....	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	5
1896.....	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	4
1897.....	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	4	9
1898.....	0	1	3	0	3	0	0	0	7
1899.....	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
1900.....	0	2	0	1		0	0	1	5
1901.....	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	4
1902.....	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
1903.....	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
1904.....	0	0	1	3	3	0	0	0	7
1905 - -	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	4

ISOLATION ACCOMMODATION.

The Council has entered into an agreement with the Hereford Rural District Council to make use of the Hospital which that Council has erected at Stretton Sugwas. No patients were sent from the Weobley district during 1905.

WATER SUPPLY.

In December, 1879, the Weobley Rural Sanitary Authority resolved that 500 yards should be a reasonable distance as regards water supply in the case of existing houses, but that for new houses and any rebuilt the distance should not exceed 200 yards.

In the parish of Letton there is a combined water supply to five houses and a public-house, galvanised iron pipes being laid from a spring a quarter of a mile distant to a standpipe. Elsewhere wells, mostly shallow and dry steyned, are to be found, and in several parishes roadside springs are utilised. On pages 168-170 of my report for 1901 will be found a report upon the water supply to the town of Weobley.

DRAINAGE AND EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

There is no combined system of drainage except in the town of Weobley, where a pipe sewer was laid in the year 1893 with an outfall into two tanks holding about 8,000 gallons each, situated in a field in the lower part of the town. There are two flushing tanks connected with the two main lines of the sewer, and man-holes are placed at intervals of about 80 yards along its length. Practically all the houses in Weobley (about 100) and two slaughter-houses are now connected with the sewer. Of the houses connected 10 have water closets, but only one is provided with a flushing tank. The total cost of the sewerage scheme, including the outfall, was £1,500, which was raised by a loan, repayable in 30 years, and which is a special charge upon the parish of Weobley.

The original outfall scheme included the irrigation of five acres of the land adjoining the tanks. This land is part of a field 40 or 50 acres in extent, the whole being in the tenancy of one farmer. In 1904 the tenant obtained damages from the District Council to the extent of £8 for injury he alleged had been done to his land by improper irrigation. Later on complaints were made of nuisance arising from the open tanks. The Council decided to in the first instance cover over one tank and convert

the other into a coke filter bed. It was hoped that there would then be no necessity for further treatment of the effluent by irrigation. The work was carried out at a cost of about £20 by the Surveyor to the District Council (Mr. F. Gwillim). It was shortly apparent that further filter beds would be necessary to deal effectually with the sewage in time of flood. In consequence of a communication from the Parish Council to the Local Government Board, a visit was paid to the sewage works by Mr. R. H. Bicknell, one of the Inspectors of the Board, and as a result the Board advised the District Council to pass the effluent over as large a portion of the adjoining field as was practicable. The owner of the land has consented to this being done, and arrangements are being made to give effect to the suggestions of the Board.

The slop water drains from a considerable number of houses elsewhere than in Weobley discharge into roadside ditches.

In the residential houses and at the Jarvis's Schools at Staunton-on-Wye water closets are provided, the drainage discharging on to adjoining land with or without the intervention of a cesspool. In some cases the drainage discharges directly into a watercourse. At the Workhouse there are seven water closets as well as earth closets. The drains discharge into the Weobley brook. Several important alterations were made during the year in the drainage of this institution. Iron D traps were replaced by earthenware gullies; lavatory waste pipes disconnected from the drains, and a drain opening into the laundry was removed. At farm-houses and cottages privy closets are generally found. In only a few instances are earth closets or pail closets provided. There are a few of the latter at Dilwyn.

HOUSING.

A fair proportion of the cottage houses are old and require to be constantly repaired if they are to remain in a habitable state.

Thatched roofs are giving place to slates or tiles, but too often there is no provision made for carrying away the roof water, so that the house is made permanently damp. (See p. 17).

PERMISSIVE POWERS.

The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, and the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, have not been adopted by the District Council, nor does the Council possess any of the Urban powers of the Public Health Act, 1875.

The Council have not made any By-laws with respect to

Private scavenging.

Houses let in lodgings.

Hop and fruit pickers.

Tents and vans.

Mortuaries and Cemeteries.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

No regulations are in force under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885. The question of making regulations was discussed during the year, and it was decided not to make any. (P. 23).

The number on the register at the end of the year was five.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are four slaughter-houses in the district, situated in the parishes of Weobley (2), Dilwyn, and Staunton-on-Wye. They are kept in a fairly good condition.

There are no By-laws in force with respect to slaughter-houses.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There is one common lodging-house in the district situated in the parish of Weobley. It was not built for the purpose to which it is now put. The four sleeping rooms give accommodation for nine persons. I am told it is well patronised, in spite of the very meagre accommodation offered. It is kept in a better condition than formerly, but there is still room for improvement. By-laws with respect to common lodging-houses and based upon the model series of the Local Government Board were adopted by the District Council on August 6th, 1901, and received the sanction of the Board on October 11th, 1901.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are public bakehouses in the following parishes :— Canon Pyon, Dilwyn, Kinnersley, Preston-on-Wye, and Weobley (4). Some of them are not kept as clean as they should be.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Mr. John Pember was elected Inspector of Nuisances in 1900 for one year, and has been re-elected annually since. He receives a salary of £50 per annum, one-half of which is contributed by the County Council. He keeps a horse and a bicycle, and pays all his travelling and incidental expenses, with the exception of stamps and stationery. He also holds office under the Council as School Attendance Officer.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Cases inquired into	17
Patients removed to hospital	0
Houses disinfected and cleansed	13
Lots of bedding, clothing, &c., disinfected	13
Schools disinfected	0
Cases of illegal exposure	0

HOUSES.

Erected	2
Made fit for habitation	2
Closed as unfit for habitation	0
Cleansed and whitewashed	6
Overcrowding abated	0

WATER SUPPLY.

Wells sunk	0
Wells cleansed and repaired	8
Wells closed	0
Samples of water sent for analysis	3

HOUSE DRAINS.

Laid or relaid	10
Cleansed, trapped, and ventilated	6
Defective waste-pipes rectified	4
Insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified	5
Dumb wells rectified	0

WATER CLOSETS.

Additional provided	2
Repaired, ventilated, or provided with cisterns	0

PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

Additional privies and ashpits provided	4
Converted to w.c.'s	2
Converted to pail closets	2
Repaired	18

SCAVENGING.

Houses from which refuse has been ordered to be removed	4
Privies ordered to be cleansed	18
Portable receptacles to be cleansed	8
Removal of offensive refuse	1

LODGING HOUSES.

On register	1
Inspected	1
Cleansed and repaired	1

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

On register	4
Inspected	4
Cleansed and repaired	4

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

On register	5
Contraventions of D.C. and M. Order	0

UNSOUND FOOD.

Seizures	0
------------------	---

CLERICAL WORK.

Letters written	76
Notices served	2
Notices complied with	2
Notices outstanding	0

JOHN PEMBER,

Inspector of Nuisances,
Norton Canon, Weobley.

February 8th, 1906.

WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT.
CENSUS RETURNS.

Sub-districts and Parishes.	Area in Acres.	Inhabited Houses.		Population.		Persons per house.	
		1891	1901	1891	1901	1891	1901
WEOBLEY	20494	1014	974	4404	4098	4.3	4.2
Almeley	3449	132	126	527	500	4.0	3.9
Bishopstone	1016	53	48	219	181	4.1	3.7
Blakemere	1121	36	32	165	154	4.6	4.2
Bridge Sollers	788	13	12	71	55	5.4	4.5
Brinsop	1413	26	24	120	132	4.6	5.5
Brobury	530	14	11	66	55	4.7	5.0
Byford	942	42	41	185	168	4.4	4.1
Kinnersley	2249	58	60	305	246	5.2	4.1
Letton	1215	40	39	147	158	3.6	4.0
Mansell Gamage	1376	29	26	125	96	4.3	3.7
Mansell Lacy	1316	47	47	195	193	4.1	4.1
Moccas	1190	40	39	188	171	4.7	4.3
Monnington-on-Wye	1023	19	18	76	83	4.0	4.6
Norton Canon	2148	71	65	281	251	3.9	3.8
Preston-on-Wye	1380	53	52	212	203	4.0	3.9
Staunton-on-Wye	2376	135	134	503	520	3.7	3.8
Weobley	3899	167	162	804	753	4.8	4.6
Yazor	2063	39	38	215	179	5.5	4.7
DILWYN	20234	705	680	3002	2853	4.2	4.1
Birley	1295	40	43	172	211	4.3	4.9
Canon Pyon	3749	150	142	614	568	4.0	4.0
Dilwyn	6423	252	234	1062	958	4.2	4.0
Eardilund	3656	122	122	500	470	5.0	3.8
King's Pyon	2407	97	96	450	439	4.5	4.5
Sarnesfield	1024	19	19	84	92	4.8	4.8
Stretford	434	8	7	38	34	4.2	4.8
Wormsley	1249	17	17	85	81	4.7	4.7
RURAL DISTRICT	49728	1719	1654	7406	6951	4.3	4.2

TABLE I. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.)

WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1905
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District..	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the district.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Number.	Rate*.	Under 1 year of age		At all ages					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births. registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895 ..	7213	173	23.9	18	104	118	16.3	14	0	3	121	16.7
1896 ..	7167	187	26.1	16	85	125	17.4	7	0	3	128	17.8
1897 ..	7122	205	28.7	18	88	122	17.2	11	0	3	125	17.5
1898 ..	7076	183	25.8	16	87	118	16.6	4	0	6	124	17.5
1899 ..	7031	152	21.6	8	52	101	14.3	5	0	7	108	15.3
1900 ..	6985	150	21.4	20	133	108	15.4	6	0	6	114	16.3
1901 ..	6939	160	23.0	9	56	119	17.1	5	0	10	129	18.0
1902 ..	6894	162	23.4	17	104	103	14.9	8	0	4	107	15.5
1903 ..	6849	174	25.4	22	126	102	14.8	5	0	5	107	15.6
1904 ..	6864	182	26.7	13	71	91	13.3	2	0	6	97	14.4
Averages for years 1895-1904	7013	173	23.6	16	91	111	15.7	7	0	5	116	16.5
1905	6760	162	23.9	17	104	116	17.1	12	0	4	120	17.7

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

† The "Public Institutions" taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are the Workhouse within the district (Cols. 9 and 10), and the County Asylum, and the Herefordshire General Hospital, beyond the district (Col. 11).

The Union Workhouse is within the district.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).	49,472	Total population at all ages.....6,951	} At Census of 1901
		Number of inhabited houses.....1,651	
		Average number of persons per house.. 4.2	

TABLE II. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).

WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICTS IN 1905
AND PREVIOUS YEARS.*Corrected for Residents and Non-residents.*

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	WEOBLEY.				DILWYN.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
1895	4275	103	75	11	2938	70	46	7
1896	4244	107	77	10	2923	80	51	6
1897	4213	116	76	13	2909	89	49	5
1898	4183	87	80	11	2893	96	44	5
1899	4152	87	63	3	2879	65	45	5
1900	4121	75	66	11	2864	75	48	9
1901	4090	83	70	6	2850	77	59	4
1902	4059	95	69	10	2835	67	38	7
1903	4030	98	68	15	2819	76	39	7
1904	4000	89	56	10	2804	93	41	3
Averages for Years 1895 to 1904	4137	91	70	10	2871	79	46	6
		*22·7	*16·9	†106		*27·5	*16·0	†75
1905	3970	101	61	6	2790	61	59	11
		*25·4	†15·3	†59		*21·8	*21·1	†180

NOTES.—

- (1) The separate localities adopted for this Table are the registration sub-districts.
- (2) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are included in sub-column *c* of this Table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded.
- (3) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.
- (4) The gross totals of the several columns in this Table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV.; thus, the totals of sub-columns *a*, *b* and *c* agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3, and 12 respectively of Table I.; the gross total of the sub-column *c* agrees with the total of column 2 in Table IV., and the gross total of sub-columns *d* with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

* Rate per 1,000 persons living.

† Rate per 1,000 births, or infantile mortality rate

TABLE III. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.
WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICTS.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH SUB-DISTRICT.		NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH SUB-DISTRICT.		
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.					1 Weo- bley.	2 Dil- wyn.	1 Weo- bley.	2 Dil- wyn.	
		Und'r 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65					65 and up- wards
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Diphtheria	7	0	0	5	1	1	0	5	2	0	
Membranous Croup ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Erysipelas	5	0	0	1	0	3	1	3	2	0	
Scarlet fever	9	0	0	7	1	1	0	3	6	0	
Typhus fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Enteric fever	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	
Relapsing fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Continued fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Puerperal fever	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Totals	23	0	0	13	2	7	1	13	19	0	

The localities adopted for this Table are the same as those in Tables II. and IV.
The Hereford Rural Isolation Hospital (which was opened for the reception of patients on 21st September, 1904) is available for patients from the Weobley District by arrangement with the Hereford Rural District Council.

TABLE IV. EXTENDED. LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.
WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1905.
Corrected for Residents and Non-residents.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO SUB-DISTRICT. (AT ALL AGES).		TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.
								WEOBLEY.	DILWYN.	
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and 5 years.	5 and 15 years.	15 and 25 years.	25 and 65 years.	65 and upwards.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Whooping Cough	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup....	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Typhus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fever { Enteric	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Other continued	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic Influenza	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diarrhoea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteritis	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Puerperal fever	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other septic diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phthisis	4	0	0	0	1	3	0	3	1	0
Other tubercular diseases	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Cancer, malignant disease	7	0	0	0	0	4	3	3	4	0
Bronchitis	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	1
Pneumonia	11	2	2	0	0	5	2	7	4	1
Pleurisy	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Other diseases of Respiratory organs.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alcoholism.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Cirrhosis of liver	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jaundice.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Premature birth	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heart disease (valvular)	6	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	3	0
Heart disease	11	0	1	0	0	2	6	6	3	0
Accidents	4	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	3	0
Marasmus	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1
Inanition	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Apoplexy	14	0	0	0	0	5	9	7	7	2
Descending lateral sclerosis.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Cerebral softening	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Nephritis	8	0	0	0	0	5	3	3	3	0
Cystitis	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0
Diseases and accidents of parturition.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Old age	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	2
Natural causes	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Rheumatism	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Intestinal obstruction.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Gastritis	4	1	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	2
Epilepsy	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	2	0
Convulsions	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pernicious anæmia	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Hydrocephalus	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Suicide.....	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
Congenital malformation.....	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
Peritonitis.....	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	1
All other causes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All causes	120	17	7	3	4	44	45	61	59	12

TABLE V. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD)
WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING YEAR 1905.

Corrected for Residents and Non-Residents.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under
One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under One year
ALL CAUSES.																	
Certified	2	..	2	2	6	2	..	2	3	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	16
Uncertified	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Small-pox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria : Croup .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diarrhoea, all forms .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis (<i>not Tuberculosis</i>) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Catarrh .. .. .	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	*1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Premature Birth	1	..	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Congenital Defects	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Injury at Birth .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Want of Breast-milk .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atrophy, Debility, .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marasmus .. .. .	..	..	..	*1	1	*1	..	1	*1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Tuberculosis Meningitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Peritonitis : .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tabes Mesenterica .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Laryngitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia .. .. .	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Suffocation, overlaying .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other causes .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3	..	2	2	7	2	..	2	3	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	17

* Illegitimate.

Rural District of WEOBLEY :—Population (estimated to middle of 1905) 6760.

Births in the year :—Legitimate, 144 ; illegitimate, 18.

Deaths from all causes at all ages (corrected for Residents and Non-residents) 120.

WEOBLEY RURAL DISTRICT.

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

From information furnished by the Sanitary Inspector, I have made a Register of the Workshops situated within the Weobley Rural District.

Attention has been paid during the year to the limewashing of Blacksmiths' shops.

The following is a summary of the Register of Workshops.

PARISHES.	Baker.	Blacksmith.	Bootmaker.	Builder.	Carpenter.	Cooper.	Dressmaker.	Machinist.	Tailor.	Wheelwright.	TOTAL.
Almeley	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	5
Birley	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Bishopstone .. .	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
Blakemere.. . .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Byford	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Canon Pyon .. .	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	8
Dilwyn	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7
Eardisland.. . .	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	5
Kings Pyon .. .	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Kinnereley .. .	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
Mansel Lacy .. .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Moccas	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Norton Canon .. .	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Preston-on-Wye ..	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Staunton-on-Wye ..	0	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	6
Weobley	4	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	2	13
Yazor	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3
Total - -	7	23	3	5	9	1	3	1	2	14	68

Workshops Inspected 26

Written Notices sent 0

Defects found 0

BROMYARD URBAN DISTRICT.

	1891.	1901	1905
Area in Acres (exclusive of water)	— ..	194 ..	194
Population (Census)	1,591 ..	1,663 ..	—
Population—Midsummer	— ..	1,665 ..	1,696
Inhabited Houses (Census)	352 ..	359 ..	—
Persons per Houses	4.5 ..	4.6 ..	—
Rateable Value 25th March ..	— ..	£6,086 ..	£6,122
A penny rate produces	— ..	£24 ..	£24
Death-rate all causes per 1,000 ..	— ..	19.2 ..	16.5
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	— ..	27.0 ..	20.6

The Bromyard Urban District was formed from the Bromyard Rural Sanitary District on January 1st, 1895. It includes the parish of Bromyard and a portion of the parish of Winslow (L.G.B. Order, November 17th, 1894). Prior to January 18th, 1895, the area now included in the Bromyard Urban District was a Special Drainage District of the Rural Sanitary District of the Bromyard Union.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER.

The Urban District of Bromyard is situated in the north-eastern side of the county of Hereford, and is entirely surrounded by the Bromyard Rural District. The area of the town is roughly triangular in shape with the apex of the triangle on the western and the base on the eastern side. The eastern boundary is formed by the River Frome; the remaining boundaries are artificial. The lowest part of the town (341ft. above sea level) is about 100 yards north of Sherford Bridge, over the River Frome. At the Market Place the height is 394ft., at the corner of Milvern Lane and Sheep Street 416ft., and at the boundary of the town on New Road it is 572ft. above sea level.

The Geological formation is Old Red Sandstone.

In the middle of the town towards the eastern side the houses are gathered together in compact fully built-up streets. There are practically no courts or back-to-back houses. Several new houses have been erected lately at Westhill, which is very well situated from a residential point of view, being 550 feet above sea level.

INDUSTRIES.

There is an extensive clothing factory giving employment to men, women, and girls both in the factory and as out-workers, also a tannery, which is now in full working order.

POPULATION.

The population of the area now included in the Bromyard Urban District at the Census of 1891 was 1,591, and at the Census of 1901 was 1,663. The estimated population at the middle of 1905, upon which the figures in this report are based, is 1,696.

BIRTHS.

No. 35. Rate per 1,000, 20.6.

There were 35 births registered in the Bromyard Urban District during 1905, of which 17 were boys and 18 girls, equal to a birth-rate per 1,000 of 20.6. This rate is 6.0 per 1,000 below that recorded in 1904 and 7.3 per 1,000 below the average rate of the previous ten years. The Birth-rate in Rural England during 1905, was 26.3 per 1,000 and in the 141 smaller towns 26.9 per 1,000.

The number of legitimate births registered was equal to 211 per 1,000 of the married women between the ages of 15 and 45 years living in Bromyard. A reference to p. 4 will show that the Birth-rate in Bromyard calculated in this way is lower than that which prevailed in England and Wales generally.

DEATHS.

No 28. Rate per 1,000, 16.5.

The number of deaths registered in the Bromyard Urban District during 1905 was 23, of which 8 were males and 15 females. There died in the Bromyard Workhouse 6 inmates, whose usual place of residence was the Bromyard Urban District, and one person died in the Bromyard Cottage Hospital who was a resident outside the Bromyard Urban District. After making, therefore, the necessary adjustments, the number of deaths among residents in the Bromyard Urban District was 28 (11 males and 17 females), equal to a death-rate of 16.5 per 1,000. This rate is 2.3 per 1,000 above that recorded in 1904, and is 1.3 per 1,000 below the average death-rate of the previous ten years. (See Table 1, p. 177).

The death-rate in the whole of England during 1905 was 15.2 per 1,000, in Rural England 14.9 per 1,000, in the 76 great towns 15.7 per 1,000, and in the 141 smaller towns 14.4 per 1,000.

TABLE A.

Following are the ages at death in various groups for the Bromyard Urban District.

	All Ages	Under 1 year.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25 25 to 45	45 to 65 65 to 75	75 to 85 85 to Over
Urban District....	28	1	0	0	1 4	6 8	5 3

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

Of the 23 deaths registered in the Bromyard Urban District in 1905 there were 21 certified by registered medical practitioners, one was certified by the Coroner, and one was uncertified. Given as percentages of the total deaths 91.3 per cent. were certified by medical practitioners, 4.3 by the Coroner, and 4.3 uncertified.

ILLEGITIMACY.

BIRTHS.—During 1905 there were registered in the Bromyard Urban District 2 illegitimate births, equal to 5.7 per cent. of the total births, or to 1.1 per 1,000 of the population living.

The proportion of illegitimate births to the number of unmarried women between the ages of 15 and 45 years was as 7 is to 1,000. A reference to page 5 will show that Bromyard Urban District compares favourably in this respect with the surrounding districts.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

	1905	Average of 10 years, 1895—1904.
Bromyard Urban District	28	89

The amount of child mortality is measured by stating the number of children who have died under one year old within a certain period in proportion to 1,000 births during the same period. In the Bromyard Urban District during 1905 there were born 35 children, and one child died under twelve months old. The infantile mortality rate was thus equal to 28 per 1,000 births.

This number was below the average (91) for the previous ten years. In the whole of England and Wales this rate during 1905 was 128 per 1,000 births, and in the rural districts 113 per 1,000; in the 76 great towns 140, and in the 141 smaller towns 132 per 1,000.

ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS.—There were no deaths among illegitimate children under twelve months old in 1905 or 1904 in the Bromyard Urban District.

ZYMOTIC (INFECTIOUS) DISEASES.

The seven diseases named below are those which are included in the expression “Principal zymotic diseases.”

	No. of cases.	No. of deaths.
Small-pox	0	0
Measles	*	0
Scarlet Fever	1	0
Whooping Cough	*	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Typhoid Fever	0	0
Diarrhœa	*	0

* Not notifiable.

SCARLET FEVER.—There was one case of scarlet fever notified during the year.

DIPHTHERIA.—No cases of diphtheria occurred in 1905.

TYPHOID FEVER.—No cases of typhoid fever were notified during 1905.

DIARRHŒA.—No deaths were registered as due to diarrhœa either in 1902, 1903, 1904, or 1905.

INFLUENZA.—There were no deaths registered as due to this disease in 1902, 1903, 1904, or 1905.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—There was no case of puerperal fever notified during 1904 or 1905.

PHTHISIS.

	Average of years,
1904	1895—1904.
Death-rate per 1,000	1.76 .. .77

The three deaths from consumption occurred in February and October. One was a male and two were females; their ages at death were 19, 21, and 29 years.

A scheme of voluntary notification has been in force in the Urban District since July 3rd, 1905.

CANCER.

One death was registered during 1905 as due to cancer.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Isolation Hospital erected in 1896 jointly by the Urban and Rural District Councils has accommodation for four patients in two separate wards. During 1905 one scarlet fever patient was admitted from the Urban District.

WATER SUPPLY.

Since the completion of the Waterworks in 1901 a decreasing number of houses in the town obtain water from wells provided with pumps on the premises.

The Waterworks supply is drawn from springs which are protected from surface water pollution by iron cylinders, and are situated on land at Buckenhill, the property of R. Phipps, Esq. The water gravitates from the springs to a pumping station at the Three Mills, and is raised from this point by a water wheel in conjunction with an oil engine to the low level reservoir, which holds 100,000 gallons. This reservoir supplies the low level District, and is 506ft. above sea level and 165ft. above the lowest hydrant near Sherford Bridge, where the pressure in the mains is 73lbs. to the square inch. The high level reservoir, with a capacity of 20,000 gallons, is situated at Flaggoner Green, and supplies the high level district. This reservoir draws its supply from the low level reservoir by means of a wind-motor, and is 578 feet above sea level, and 103 feet above the lowest hydrant in York Road, where the pressure is 45lbs. to the square inch. There is also a tower tank with a capacity of 800 gallons, adjoining the high level reservoir, for supplying a few houses which cannot be supplied from the reservoir. This tank should be replaced by a much larger one, as its supply is governed by the wind-motor, which is not continually pumping.

Fire hose and stand fittings for connection to the hydrants are kept at the fire engine station in Rowberry Street. The roofs of most houses in the town could be reached by the fire hose, but there is scarcely sufficient head to reach those situated at the upper ends of West Hill and Sheep Street. About 75 per cent. of head is lost owing to friction and bends, so that a 100-ft. head would only reach a height of 25 to 30 ft.

There have now been connected with the water mains 153 houses (nearly one-half of the number in the town), two Public Schools, the Grammar School, and the Cattle Markets, and one large house in the Rural District ; there are also six stand pipes from which water is drawn for the supply of houses in their vicinity. Three stand pipes were abandoned during 1904, and the water connected to the adjoining houses. The weekly consumption is at present about 65,000 gallons. At no time during 1902 or 1903 was there any necessity to limit the supply of water from the public mains.

DRAINAGE.

Plans for a complete system of sewerage for the town have been prepared by Mr. J. E. Wilcox, Engineer, of Birmingham, and have been considered by the Council. A new 12-inch stone-ware pipe sewer has been laid in Sheep Street for a length of 280 yards, and two old stone drains abolished. This sewer connects with an old stone drain in St. Peter's Lane, which discharges on to the Porthouse field above the railway and in the neighbourhood of the church. Two new stoneware pipe sewers have been laid during the year, viz., a 12-inch in Hereford Street for a length of 76 yards ; and a 7-inch in the King's Arms yard entry for the drainage of four houses and the yard. These take the place of old stone drains which had become so defective that adjoining premises were constantly being flooded after rain by foul storm water. The new sewer in Hereford Street is connected to a stone drain which empties into the main sewer in Pump Street. A stone drain traverses the top end of Milvern Lane and empties on to a field. A pipe drain in Church Street discharges on to and over the meadow behind the Police Station. A pipe drain from Sherford Street discharges directly into the river Frome near the northern side of the bridge. The principal main drain of the town (from Pump Street) is of stone and discharges into an open ditch at the side of Chapel meadow. This ditch is open for about 110 yards before it discharges into the River Frome, but at the time of writing the Council have decided to put down filter beds and to treat the sewage from the Sherford Street drain and from the main drain before it is discharged into the stream.

Seven new street gullies have been put in Sheep Street in connection with the new 12-inch combined sewer ; and one street gulley in the King's Arms yard entry.

A large defective and offensive catchpit in Pump Street has been trapped, and a 6-inch ventilating shaft erected at the top end of the Hereford Street sewer to carry away the sewer gas, which formerly had been a source of nuisance in Pump Street.

The majority of the houses in the town are provided with privy middens. But these are gradually being abolished. There are some pail closets and earth closets, and an increasing number of water closets are being constructed.

(For most of the information relating to the water supply and drainage I am indebted to the Town Surveyor, Mr. J. D. Barrs).

SCAVENGING.

The scavenging of the streets is carried out weekly by the Council's workmen. House refuse is removed by and at the cost of householders. During the past year the Council has had under consideration the question of scavenging ash-pits, &c., at the expense of the Council, but no decision was come to on the matter.

HOUSING.

The average number of persons per house at the last Census was 4.6. No houses were certified by me during 1905 as uninhabitable under section 30 of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890. The majority of the houses occupied by the labouring classes are fairly well built, but there are some which require constant supervision.

PERMISSIVE POWERS.

The Public Healths Acts (Amendment), Act, 1890, was adopted by the District Council in 1895.

The Council has not adopted the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

By-laws are in force in the district with respect to

The cleansing of footways and pavements,

The removal of house refuse,

The cleansing of earth-closets, privies and ash-pits,
Nuisances.

Slaughter-houses,

Common lodging-houses, and

New streets and buildings.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

There are no Regulations in force under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885. The question of making Regulations has been considered by the Finance and General Purposes Committee, but no decision has yet been come to on the matter. There is one dairy on the register.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are four slaughter-houses in the town. One is registered for a limited period and is periodically re-registered. They are tolerably well kept, and are whitewashed more regularly than formerly.

During 1903 the Council caused to be placed in each slaughter-house a placard setting out the provisions of the By-laws in plainer language than is found in the by-laws themselves.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are two common lodging houses in the Urban District. One has accommodation for 17 lodgers, the other for 13. There are in each house three bedrooms (one only with a fireplace) for lodgers. In view of the fact that the premises were not specially built for this particular purpose, both houses are satisfactorily conducted. There is frequently too great an accumulation of refuse in the backyards of the houses (the back premises are common to the two houses) and the one privy closet which serves for the two houses should be replaced by an earth closet or a water-closet.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are seven public bakehouses in the town. Sufficient attention is not given in several instances to the whitewashing of the internal walls, and as the ovens are stoked from inside the bakehouses a great deal of unnecessary dirt is caused by allowing coal or slack to lie uncovered and to tread about the floors.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Mr. Thomas Barrs was appointed Inspector of Nuisances upon the formation of the Urban District in 1895. He is re-appointed annually and receives a salary of £8 per annum, one-half of which is repaid by the County Council. He holds no other appointment under the Bromyard Urban District Council, but is Inspector of Nuisances for the Bromyard Rural District.

WORKSHOPS.

From information furnished by the Sanitary Inspector, I have made a register of the Workshops situated within the Bromyard Urban District.

The Blacksmiths' shops have been limewashed during the year.

The following is a summary of the register:—

Blacksmiths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bootmakers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Builders	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Cabinet Makers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Coachbuilder	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dressmakers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Harness makers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Machinists	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Monumental Masons	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Tailors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Watchmakers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Wheelwright	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
—								
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
No. of Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Workshops inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Written Notices	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Defects found	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

BROMYARD AS A PLACE OF RESIDENCE.

The reputation of Bromyard as a healthy place of residence has been quite maintained during the past year. The corrected death-rate of 15.0 per 1,000 is lower than that which prevailed throughout England and Wales—15.2 per 1,000. The measures taken by the District Council for dealing promptly with outbreaks of infectious disease have always been successful.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1905.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Cases inquired into	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Patients removed to Hospital	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Houses disinfected and cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Lots of bedding, clothing, &c., disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Cases of illegal exposure	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

WATER SUPPLY.

Wells sunk	0
Wells cleansed and repaired	0
Wells closed	1
Samples of water sent for analysis	2
Houses connected to water main	13

HOUSE DRAINS.

Laid or relaid	5
Cleansed, trapped, and ventilated	5
Defective waste-pipes rectified	5
Insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified	2
Dumb wells rectified	0
Houses erected	0

WATER CLOSETS.

Additional provided	2
Repaired, ventilated, or provided with cisterns	2

PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

Additional privies and ashpits provided	2
Converted to w.c.'s	1
Converted to pail closets	0
Repaired	0

SCAVENGING.

Houses from which refuse has been ordered to be removed	5
Privies ordered to be cleansed	3
Portable receptacles to be cleansed	0
Removals of offensive refuse	6
Cesspits emptied	2

LODGING HOUSES.

On register	2
Inspected	2
Cleansed and repaired	2

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

On register	4
Inspected	4
Cleansed and repaired	4

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

On register	I
Contraventions of D.C. and M. Order	0

UNSOUND FOOD.

Seizures	0
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CLERICAL WORK.

Letters written	20
Notices served	0
Notices complied with	0
Notices outstanding	.. .. .	0

T. BARRS,

Inspector of Nuisances,

Deykins Green, Bromyard.

April 30th, 1906.

The Urban District was singularly free from infectious cases during the year, only one case of Scarlet Fever was notified. The bakehouses were whitewashed more frequently than hitherto, and the lodging houses were thoroughly cleansed at intervals.

TABLE I. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.)
BROMYARD URBAN DISTRICT.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1905 AND
PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC IN- STITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.			NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.		Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Residents regis- tered in Public Institutions beyond the District.		Number.	Rate.*
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895 ..	1623	37	22·8	2	54	28	17·2	2	2	9	35	21·
1896 ..	1630	56	34·3	4	71	22	13·4	0	0	7	29	17·8
1897 ..	1638	52	31·7	5	96	37	22·5	1	1	3	39	23·8
1898 ..	1645	43	26·1	5	116	31	18·8	1	1	4	33	20·0
1899 ..	1653	45	27·0	3	66	21	12·6	0	0	7	28	17·9
1900 ..	1660	47	28·3	8	170	31	18·7	1	1	2	32	19·2
1901 ..	1665	45	27·0	5	111	24	14·4	0	0	8	32	19·2
1902 ..	1672	39	23·3	2	51	14	8·3	1	1	5	18	10·7
1903 ..	1680	41	26·1	3	68	19	11·3	0	0	3	22	13·0
1904 ..	1688	45	26·6	5	111	23	13·6	1	1	2	24	14·2
Averages for 10 yrs. 1895-1904	1655	45	27·3	4	91	25	15·1	7	7	5	29	17·8
1905	1696	35	20·6	1	28	23	13·6	1	1	6	28	16·5

* Rates in Columns 4, 8 and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

† The "Public institutions" taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are the Bromyard Cottage Hospital within the district (Cols. 9 and 10), and the Bromyard Workhouse, Isolation Hospital, County Asylum, Herefordshire General Hospital, and Worcester General Infirmary beyond the district (Col. 11).

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	194	Total population at all ages.....	1663	} At Census of 1901.
		Number of inhabited houses	359	
		Average number of persons per houses	4·6	

(Table II. is not required).

TABLE III. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).

BROMYARD URBAN DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR 1905.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							No OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Und'r 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and up- wards	
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Membranous Croup ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet fever	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Typhus fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Relapsing fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Continued fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phthisis	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Totals	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	1

The Joint Isolation Hospital³ of the Bromyard Urban and Rural District Council is situated in the Rural District.

TABLE IV. (EXTENDED). (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).

BROMYARD URBAN DISTRICT.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1905.

Corrected for Residents and Non-residents.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS IN THE DISTRICT.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Small-pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Croup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fever { Typhus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
{ Enteric	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
{ Other Continued	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cholera	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plague	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diarrhoea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteritis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other septic diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phthisis	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
Other tubercular diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer, malignant disease ..	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Bronchitis	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Pneumonia	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Pleurisy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Alcoholism {	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Cirrhosis of liver {	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Premature birth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diseases and accidents of parturition	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Accidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Osteo-arthritis	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Rheumatism	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Apoplexy	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Heart disease (valvular)	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
Peritonitis	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Cystitis	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Nephritis	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Old age	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Inanition	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Natural causes	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
All other causes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All causes	28	1	0	0	1	10	16	1

TABLE V. (LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD).
 BROMYARD URBAN DISTRICT.
 INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905
Corrected for Residents and Non-Residents.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under
 One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH	AGE
Inanition	1 day

Certified and of legitimate birth

Urban District of BROMYARD :—Population (estimated to middle of 1905) 1696.

Births in the year :—Legitimate, 33 ; illegitimate, 2.

Deaths from all causes at all ages (corrected for Residents and Non-residents) 28

